Rozen Maiden™

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ローゼン メイデン
Rozen Maiden
5

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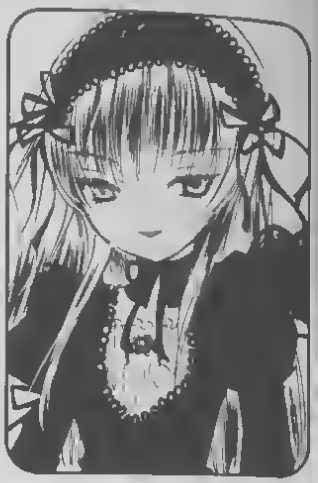
Hinaichigo
Another one of the Rozen Maiden dolls She is staying with the Sakurada family as Shinku's servant.

Canaria
Self-proclaimed "brain" of the Rozen Maiden Dolls She spies on Shinku and her friends

Suiseiseki
One of the Rozen Maiden dolls. She came looking for help from Shinku

Souseiseki
One of the Rozen Maiden dolls, twin sister of Suiseiseki.



Suguintoh
One of the Rozen Maiden dolls just like Shinku She is Shinku's rival

Nori Sakurada
Jun's older sister She handles all the chores and housework for the Sakurada household. Quite a space cadet.

Tomoe Kashiwara
Jun's childhood friend and classmate. She was a former master of Hinaichigo

Introduction

Sakurada Jun is a middle school hikikomori, a student who never leaves his room. His favorite pastime is getting a thrill from returning products he buys online before the "cooling off" period ends. His sister Nori is concerned about him, but Jun won't open up to her about what he's feeling. One day among the items he had ordered online, he found an exquisite antique doll. Bursting with curiosity, Jun wound the key in the back of the doll, which caused the doll to start moving and speaking. It said to Jun, "My name is Shinku. From now on you shall be my servant." Shinku is a living doll, one of the Rozen Maidens. To protect Shinku's Rosa Mystica, Jun gets tangled up in magical and strange battles between the other Rozen Maiden dolls...

Characters

Jun Sakurada
Middle school hikikomori. By chance, he is Shinku's servant (but technically her master)

Shinku
No. 5 doll of the Rozen Maiden series of dolls with magical powers

Rozen Maiden

ローゼン メイデン

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Hey, did you hear about the old chapel?
Oh, stop it with the horror stories.
Oh, but I know there's something living in there.
I wonder when they're going to tear it down. The new chapel is finished already...
It's so eerie.
It's as if...

ローゼンメイデン
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...it's possessed by a devil.
HYI
HYI
Is Souseiseki's Rosa Mystica rejecting me ..?
I can't fold it.. I have no control... Why?
It won't heal The wing damaged in the battle with Shinku ..
But I won't be able to sleep in my doll case tonight...
Don't worry, Mei Mei.
Since you're working with Lempicka, it should heal quickly

Perhaps it is that I don't want to get better.
And since I won't get better, I don't need to eat.
It's the truth.
Megu-chan, why do you say things like that...?
You haven't been eating your meals again. If you keep it up, you'll--
Oh, stop that nonsense
I won't get better, no matter what I do.
To live or to die...
It's quite simple. It's not even a question.
It's quite tragic and beautiful, don't you think?
I rather like my predicament.
You can take it badly if you like.

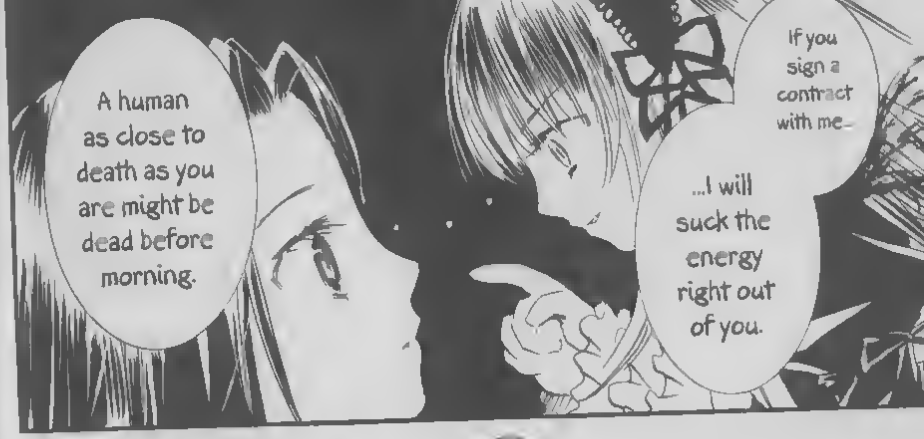
316
Megu-chan!
Megu-chan!
It's almost time for lights out. You should close the window.
Just a little while longer..
If I wait like this...
...a black angel comes down from the sky...
...and picks at my life little by little.

Did you wind me up?
I'm a little disap-pointed..
Megu...
.. Gu.
Megu. .
So, I'm sorry, but...
...I won't eat that crappy hospital food.
Death is so luscious and seductive.
A sweet fruit that can only be tasted once
Tempted by that..
...how could anyone choose anything else?
Oh, Megu-chan...

You shall be my nourishment...
...so that I can win the Alice Game.
A ring...?
I, Suiguntoh, will not wait to be chosen like the other sisters do
I shall choose and I shall decide
Whether I get a contract or not, I can still take energy from humans.
Of all the sisters, I am quite unique
No one can get away from me.
Does that mean...
...I will die?
You're pretty quick for an idiot.

You are an angel!
You finally came to me.
An angel...?
Who ever heard of an angel dressed in black?
Fu...
You're a silly girl.
I'll make you enter the contract whether you want to or not
Well, no matter. Put this on your finger quickly.

No matter what anyone says...
...you are an angel.


A human as close to death as you are might be dead before morning.
If you sign a contract with me-
...I will suck the energy right out of you.

Suiguintoh, that's your name, right?
See?
This is my lucky day!

Yes, you are an angel.
It's settled then!

But that's really none of my concern...
That's great!

Angel...? But I'm not...
Oh, you are.

...but I do wonder what part of you resonates with me.
?
I don't mean to complain about Hollier's selection...
What?!
What the--?!
ぽん
What are you talking about...?
Nnn?

click
It's so quiet...
If someone would take a freakin' nap, it would be even more quiet.
It always is when Nori's at school.
Yeah, yeah. I stay up too late and sleep in too late. I don't even go to school...
I don't stay up at night as you do, Jun.
The time of day that is most appropriate for sleep is night

The master's soul is the doll's soul.
If you attack it, you destroy yourself, just like Souseiseki did...
That is how much master and the doll--you and me--are alike.
Can you see your soul in my eyes?
.....
I'm...
The reason your soul sometimes flows into my consciousness is because of this.
That's why the artificial spirit selects a human with a soul that matches the Doll's.
When we, the Rozen Maidens, enter a contract with a human medium...
...it means that we are able to take power from that human's sea.
Look into my eyes.
What are you doing?
What?
Do you see it?
.....
Every human has a sea in his soul
A small part of the infinitely expanding Sea of Unconsciousness.
Your soul is part of everyone's.

You're right
But..
You are a coward that knows only how to run away.
...there is bravery in you.
It takes guts...
...to be able to look squarely at your weakness.
...stand in the same sea.
And because of that, you and I..
You fight to live...
...but all I can do is run and hide.
I know that as long as I stay in this room, I won't get hurt any more
You are strong.
I'm just...
I'm not like you at all.
I know it...

But then you and I came together...
You taught me, Jun.
But what I was afraid of the most..
...was losing.
Mumu
Hmm
What...?
.....?

You, Shuuku?
Yes.
We're both scaredy cats.
I always want to run away.
And truth be told, I am quite a coward as well

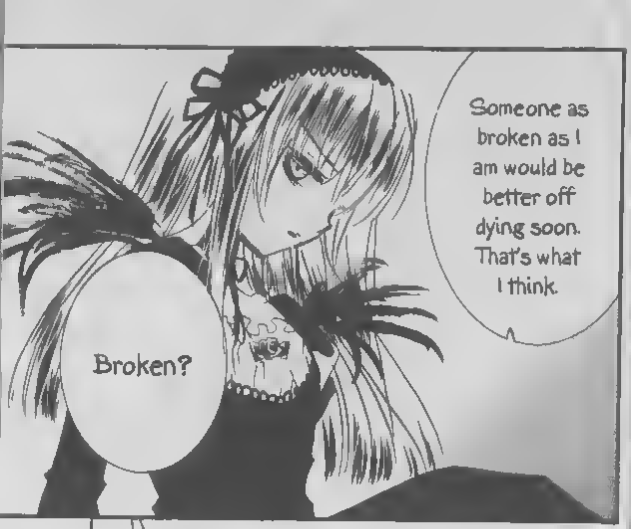
It's the truth. I'm afraid of many things.
.....
I don't need your pity..

Oh, my I almost forgot
Wha-what are you doing?!
Now that it's settled, I must show thanks.
Even if..

Aaargh!
ゴッ
Hey!

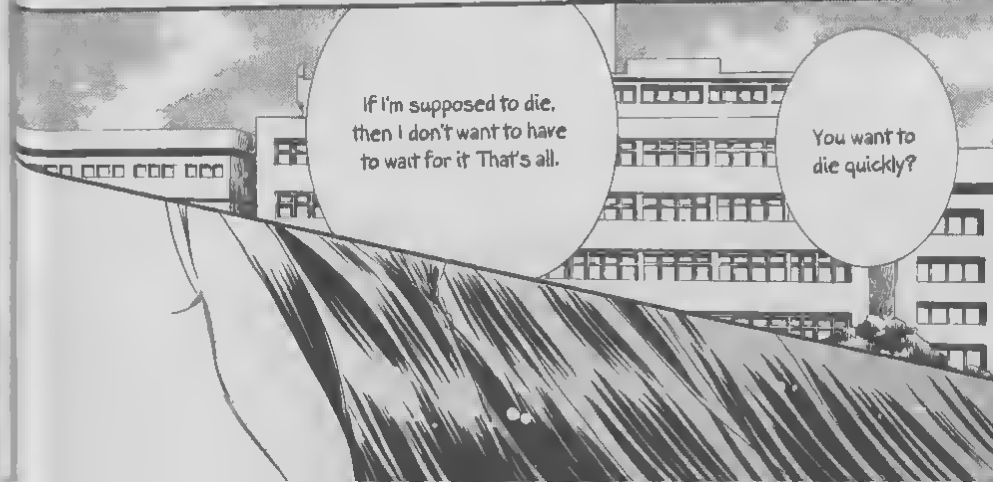
What's that?
Oh, dear I've told you my secrets.
Don't tell anybody
I'm not fond of the Demon of Laplace ether, and...
I'm afraid of cats. I don't like the dark...
I fear Suguuntoh and...

Suiseiseki.
I've been thinking, as I look out this window...
Even if it's her...
I don't want to be cremated.
I don't want to be buried either.
That's why I must fly away.
I have made a decision.
That when I die, I will grow beautiful wings on my back...
..and fly away into the sky!
And if I'm with an angel, I'll be able to do that.
But I told you that I'm not..
We're two peas in a pod
Ah, but you are broken as well.
I've met a lot of humans, but I've never met one as broken as you.
People don't like you much, do they...?
That's stupid.
.....



I am so broken, I need someone else's healthy heart to live.
The heart is the core of the human body, like the power plant—
Sounds like the Rosa Mystica
Oh, tell me
Nothing
Huh? The what?

They said...
...I would die before I was five
Then they said seven, then ten...
My parents got tired of being sad
Now, they don't even want to see me.



Mei Mei, the door to the N Field...
.....
Suiguintoh?
The door is...
What is this...?
Oh, tell me--
Suiguintoh...
I have to go
I need...
More Rosa Mystica...

Now then. I've apologized.
What the hell is that supposed to mean?
What are you up to?
Just what I said
I shouldn't have called one of the sister dolls a piece of junk. That was thoughtless of me
What?
Didn't you hear me?
I'm sorry that I called you junk.
.....
I'm sorry I called you a piece of junk.
Sh--
kinku!
Are you there?
I can't see you very well.
Why don't you come play with me?
Maybe I'll tear your leg off this time
.....
Talk?
Not today I just want to talk.

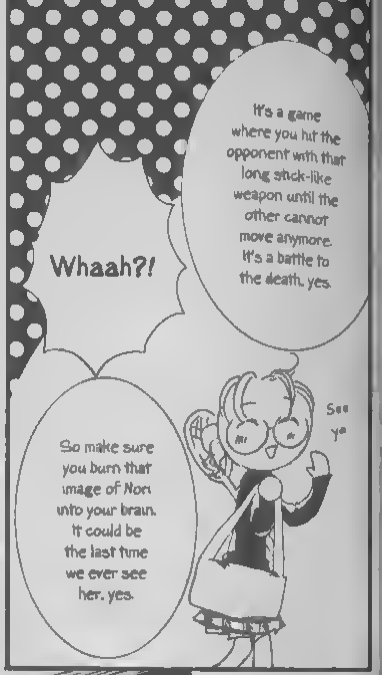
But I shall continue to carry on with this new understanding
Our opinions have always differed on this point.
The last time we argued about it was 590,724 hours and 12 minutes ago
Good luck to you, too.
Suiguintoh...
We'll meet again soon.
Dinner time!
Snack time!
I'm home, everyone!

If you take notice of the voice that calls you...
There is no junk in this world.
Just like Jun was able to revive the lost stuffed animals and my right arm...
That's what Jun taught me
...you will never be junk.
Sh--
...but it is essential to understanding the bond between master and doll
Someone like you who sees humans solely as sources of nourishment might find that hard to accept...
Such a temper
Damn you! Shut up!
Shut up! Shinku!

Phase 24

Nori! Welcome home!
I was a little nervous, but..
Don't worry, Hollier.
.....

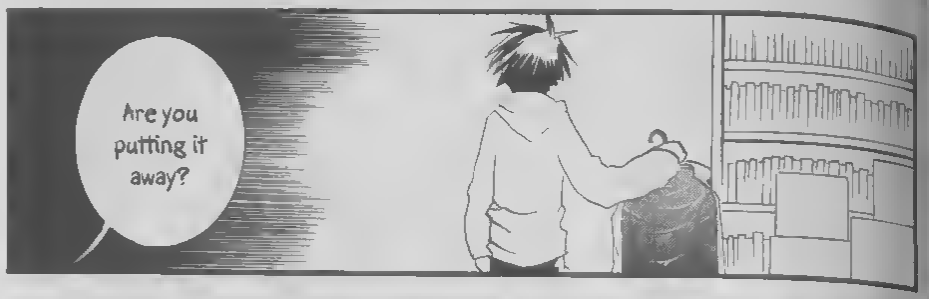
Go for the spine! Yes!
No, no, no, Nooori! Don't die! Fight, fight, fight!
?


Whaah?!
It's a game where you hit the opponent with that long stick-like weapon until the other cannot move anymore. It's a battle to the death, yes.
So make sure you burn that image of Nori into your brain. It could be the last time we ever see her, yes.
See ya

It is time for the brains of the Rozen Maidens to prevail. Today, they will all be mine.
After 72 mishaps, maybe lady luck is finally smiling on me...

Oh, no! I'll be late for the bus!
I'll be home late, so have Jun order take-out for lunch, okay?
Oui!
I under-stand, yes.

She's going to lacrosse practice, Chibi-Hina.
Lacrosse?
Nori has to go to school on Sunday, too?


Are you putting it away?

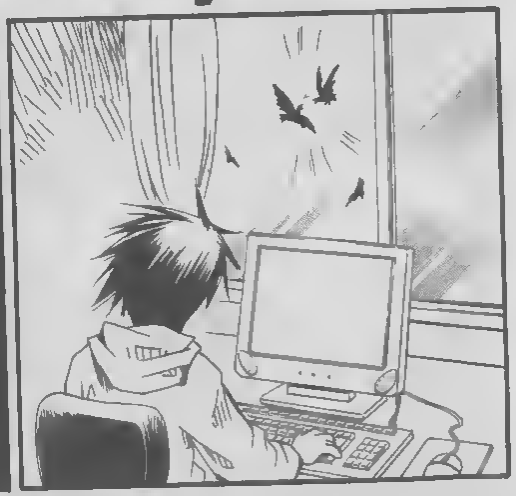
Hey... where did you get that book?
I found it in the mirror room.
I see.
You were there?
I wasn't showing it off or anything, so.

It's German. "Alchemy and Psychology of the Unconscious."
If you're interested, you should be able to read it
In that room full of old junk? Hey, I can't read it What's this anyway?

A sweet omelet to finish the...
Finally, my very favorite

A tactician shan't hurry or make haste I must chew the rice 77 times and
Hey, no fighting there!
But before I make my move, I need to recharge my energy with a good breakfast

MEAL!



Good grief.
That little human is my master, too...
...but he spends all his time with Shinku, yes...
I mean, I couldn't care less about such a stupid thing..
I just wish he would think about the power balance sometime! Yes!
Kyau!
Trip
Why?
...if you concentrate, the meaning should flow into your head
Since you and I share the Sea of Unconsciousness..
I lied.
I'm not getting anything.
Idiot...
YOU!

I'll get myself together... And maybe I'll try the living room today!
I won't let something as trivial as an omelet ruin me.. Not Canaria, the one
with beauty and brains.
An omelet
Don't worry, Pizzicato.
We'll go for it when they open the window to let some air in, shall we?
Urrrr...
Jeez...
Oyo?
What's all this mess, yes?!
Ahhhhh!
While Nori is away, I am the boss! YES!
With the absence of the boss monkey, how deplorable that you turn the whole area into anarchy, Dumb-Ichigo!
I'll clean up later
No, now!
That's it!
Hey, Hinaichigo, you help, too! Yes!
Oui?
It's punishment for making a mess, yes.
Help me, Suiseiseki.
It's heavy.
Hey, bring it all the way over here, yes.

I'm not thinking about the omelet
We'll continue to wait, Pizzicato.
What's happening...? According to my investigations, the window opens at 9:35 on the weekend...
Trash-eating device is here, yes!
Hee Hee
What do we do with this?
Of course, we clean, yes.
You put the tail in here like this and...
And she made it mad so it made a noise like "Booooooom."
I think Nori did like this, yes...
It's not moving, yes?
Oui ...?
.....
She'll give us Hana-maru burgers for sure! Yes!
If we clean the house while Nori is gone, she will be pleasantly surprised, yes.
Now... How do you use this?
Yes, yes.
Hina will help, too!

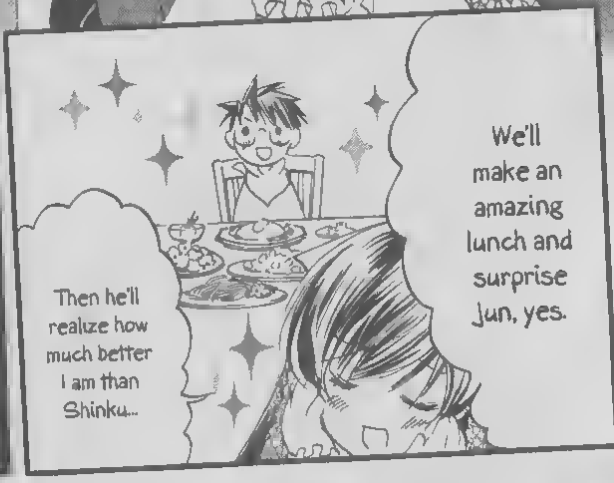
I was just about to take a bite...
What... Pizzicato?
Let me get a little closer...
What? You hear noises from the room?
Hey, you! I'll take your nose off, if you don't wake up now!
Wake up, yes?!
...
It's not getting mad...
Rya rya rya rya rya...
We have to make it mad! Yes!
Are you asleep?
Hey, you?
Oh!
Take this!
Wa
uryah!
?

Phew I should have done this to begin with, yes...
It's lunchtime, yes.
I'm hungry.
Kyaaah!
It's maaaaaad!
What is that noise?
The spirit of Orochi has gone mad! Yes!
Kya!

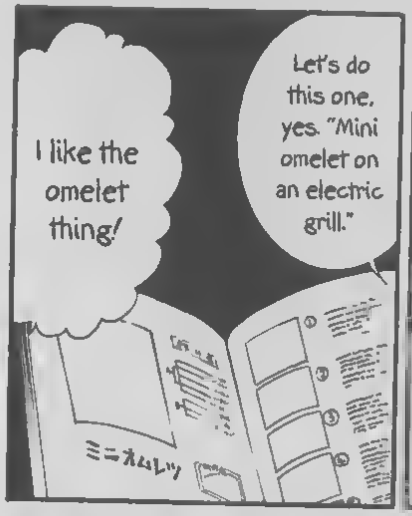
Urrrr Urrrreeee
Wait, just a... minute
What's taking you so long?
We'll start cooking once you put that on.
An apron is a basic requirement for cooking, you know...
Whaaa!

First you boil some water and make a hardboiled egg, yes?
Okay. Let's make an egg salad sandwich, then.
Ooooh
Oh, no matter just wear this one and let's get started.
yes?

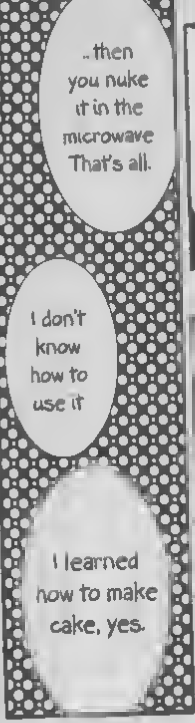
Aren't you going to ask Jun to get take-out?
We're going to do it ourselves.
Okay! I'm going to make a great lunch, yes!

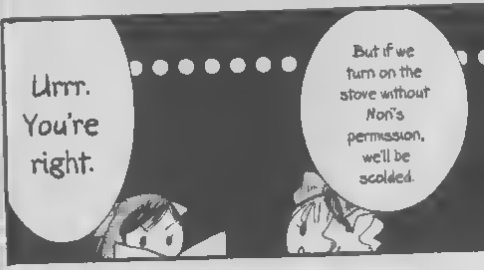

Then he'll realize how much better I am than Shinku...
We'll make an amazing lunch and surprise Jun, yes.

Oui, sir.
What are you looking at! Come on, get started, Itsy Bitsy!
I'll have another look here...
Wah, hah! That gave me quite a fright, but—


I like the omelet thing!
Let's do this one, yes. "Mini omelet on an electric grill."

Urrr...The microwave got angry, too.
Here it says, "unless you wrapped the egg with foil, it will explode." yes...


...then you nuke it in the microwave That's all.
I don't know how to use it
I learned how to make cake, yes.


Urrr. You're right.
But if we turn on the stove without Non's permission, we'll be scolded.

First you put water and egg in a mug and...
There is a method for making hardboiled eggs in the microwave.

Ooooh!
It means to add things so it tastes good.

Break the eggs into a bowl, stir well, and add seasoning to taste.
To taste?

Let's see, salt and pepper... About this much, yes?
Wait a minute.

The incredible edible egg!
It will be done in seven minutes.

Kyah!

Urgh...
What are you doing, Stupid Ichigo!
Mapoilo! Strawberry Daifuku! Strawberry Calpico!
I don't think that's right!
Wha?!
I know it will be delicious!
Well, I guess we can cook it to see how it goes... yes?
With a slight scent of eggs.
I smell something sweet...
It smells kinda sour...
The lactic acid in Calpico separated everything, yes...

I'm hungry I guess...?
Omelet
Kyah!
You had to find out yet?
What the...!
Ah, Suiseiseki!
Yeah!
Yeah, pizza!
I see.
Hope pizza's okay.
Hey, guys! I got us some lunch.
PIZZA
DELIVERY
Huh?
Okay
What's that strange smell?
Maybe street cats can eat you, yes.
Before that little human finds out, I'm going to get rid of this one, yes!
Pizzicato, could it be...
Eggs.?

Phase 25

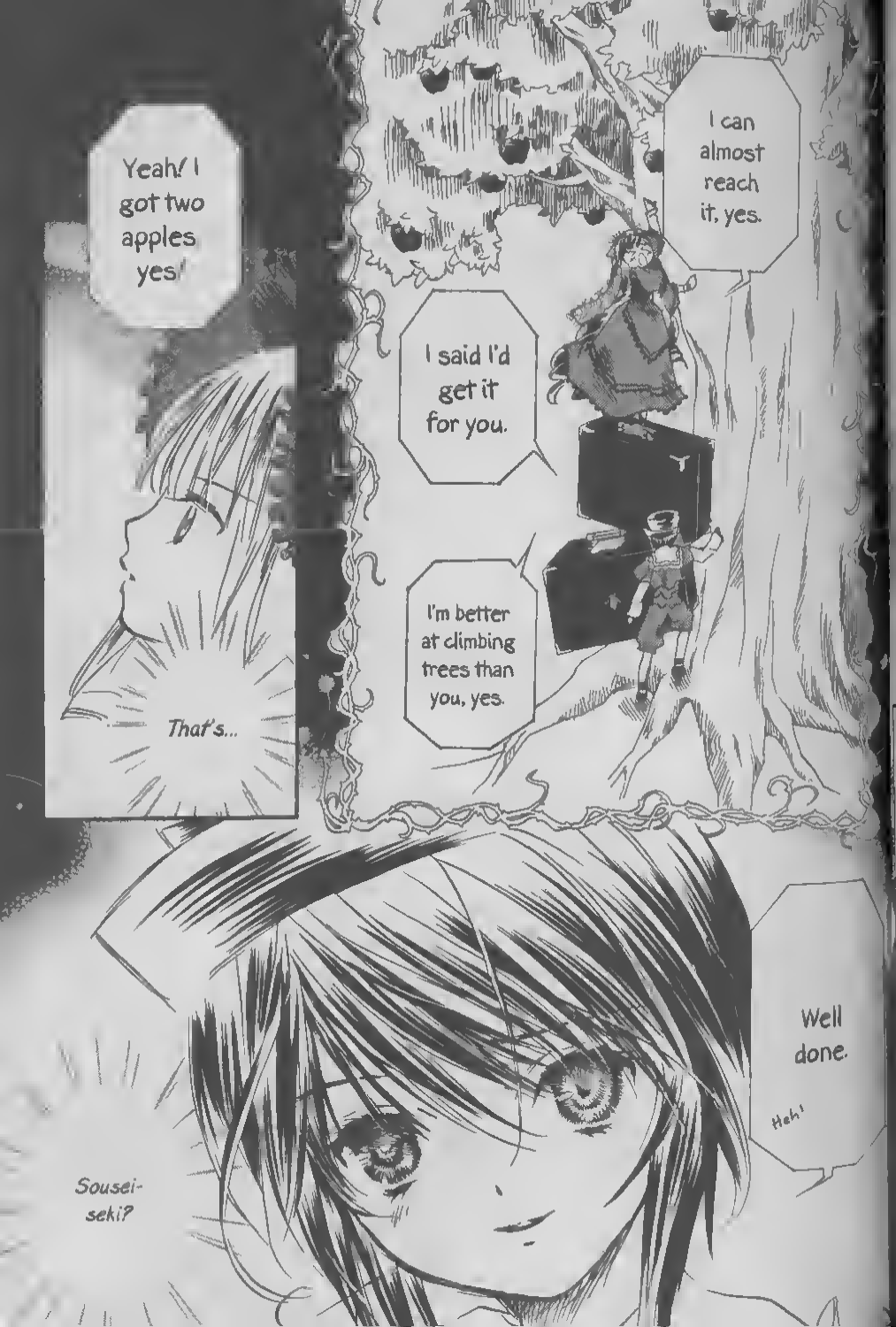
Bon appetite!

This is the space between the dreams...
The bottom of a deep sleep...
It's where the dreams of many people flow into each othe
Where am I?
That's..
...The door of dreams...

I thought maybe you had a fight with your sister.
But you must have made up with her
?
She seems so spacey, but actually...
.....
I'm going to look at someone else's dream, yes.
This is boring...
Dammit!
Which one of you put my voodoo doll in a dress?!
Kya! Kya!
Hinaichigo? Suiseiseki?
This must be Nori's dream, yes...?
You've been down since we visited the Rose Mansion...
What?
I'm glad that you're all better, Suiseiseki-chan.

This is Jun's dream.
Ah...
Kya...
I've seen this dream before, yes.
Sigh
Good...
Whoa! Where did you come from?
Are you going somewhere?
I don't need to hide from the little human, do I...?
He's in the middle of changing..
Hmm?
I guess, I am.
Well, yes...

It must be.. I must be in a very deep sleep.
Is this a dream?
Eh?
This door is...
In that outfit you look...
...than usual... Maybe!
...a little better...
Phew. That was close.
I'll go into Itsy Bitsy's dreams and change all her candy into natto, yes.


Yeah! I got two apples yes!
I can almost reach it, yes.
I said I'd get it for you.
I'm better at climbing trees than you, yes.
That's...
Souseiseki?
Well done.
Heh!

Suiseiseki?
Sob Sob
?
Umm...
What's wrong, Suiseiseki?
Suiseiseki...
!
Don't...

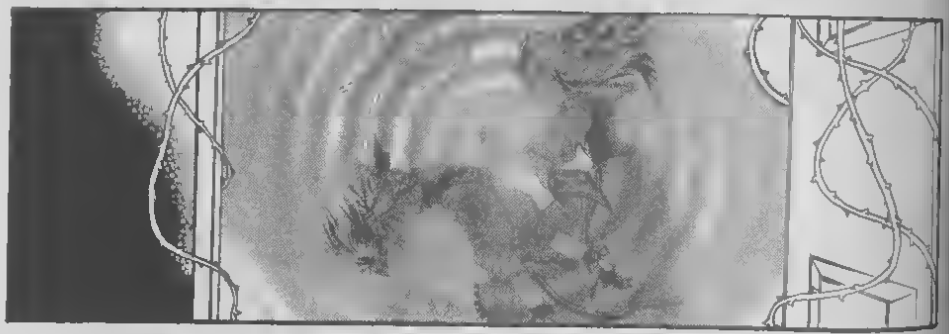
Souseiseki?
Let me stay like this for a little while...
You're such a baby, Souseiseki.
This must be your dream, Suiseiseki.
I wonder if this is happening because we share a human medium.
We're in the same dream
Shinku...
This is...
...the door to our shared dreams.
We were always together...

You're acting strange, Souseiseki...
Then I shall protect you from the other sisters, Souseiseki.
I'll always be with you.
Souseiseki...
I'm just a coward, unlike you.
You are strong
What? Why?
I just don't like to fight, that's all.
If someone were to put your Rosa Mystica in front of me
I would hesitate..
I've never seen an expression like that on her before.
When we were alone, this is how we would be with each other
I don't care
I mean, I love father, but I love you just as much, Souseiseki.
.....
When the Alice Game starts...
...I wonder if we'll have to battle one another?
If I have to take your Rosa Mystica..
...I'd rather not become Alice

Phase 26
Always, always together...
Suiseiseki...

It's mine.
It's mine...

Shinku. ?



Ah...!
It's disappear-ing...
Wait...
Sousei-seki...

No, Suisei-seki!

.. rather than letting her take it--
If I had seen Suiguntoh sooner
Suiseiseki.
No, Suiseiseki.
If I had seen her--
You're wrong
I should have taken it..
Souseiseki's Rosa Mystica

Sou..
Ah...
I...
I...
Souseiseki
It's my fault.

As we alternate between sleep and wake.
..we embrace many encounters and partings..
The veil of memory is like the layers of petals in a flower.
The flower blooms through time...and through people.
We are the Rozen Maidens...
Suisei-seki..
I miss her...
Eh...eh... urrrr..
I miss you, Souseiseki, yes.
You are a crybaby.
You act strong
But you sleep with a sadness and loneliness that lies at the bottom of your consciousness.

He's also fighting a sadness that won't heal.
Just as you are now
But if you cannot meet again.. what would you call that?
Where has Souseiseki gone?
Dolls do not die.
That I don't know.
It could be that she is somewhere close but far away, just like father
Look, Suiseiseki.
It's a beautiful day today..
Would you like another cup of tea?
The old man..
Ah... Ah!
No. Watch closely
Because she tried to save you.. Souseiseki is.. Souseiseki is..
Suiseiseki.
How could he be having tea at a time like this, yes!

Souseiseki let go of her vessel of consciousness herself
If we lose our Rosa Mystica, we too will journey to the beyond...
But even then..
Our ideas live and our souls remain.
Just like a stuffed animal that is lost and thinks "This is not the place where I live.."
But...there are instances at which you hear someone calling you from a distance
We are sisters forever.
Jun taught me twice now.
You will see each other again even if you are far, far apart.
We dolls do not grow up and grow old like humans do.
We will eventually cease to exist.
We will eventually decay and become dust...
But as long as we are vessels of consciousness... As long as our body exists in the material world...

What're you doing?
I'm going out...

?
..to kick butt for a little while, yes
I will be back by dinner, yes.

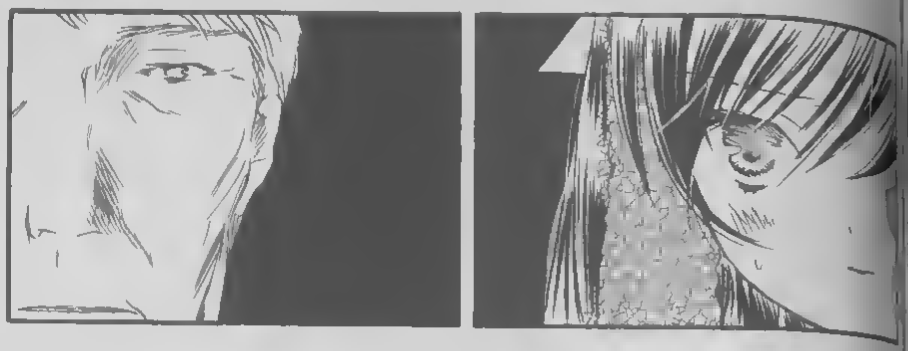
I'm not sure I understand...
But...
Shinku, I like you a lot. You're so kind
Thank you...

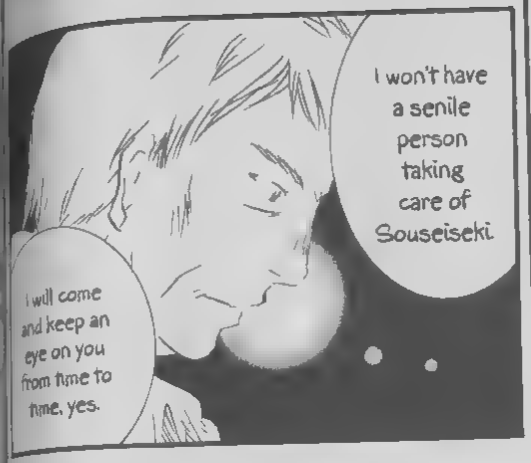
It's a nice day again.
Maybe we can go out to the garden later and--

Yes!
Luu, Luu, Luu...
What's she talking about..?
It's so fun to clean the window!
It's nice and clean!
It's nice and gleaming.
Hey...
Hina and Nori made them shine!
Never mind...
Oh, Jun-kun?
Laaaah!
Dust and dirt are gone in a snap.
They're terminated. la. la. la--
I said, hey

No matter what you do...
...Souseiseki won't wake up!
I hit my head...
Suisei-seki...?!
Have you gone senile?!
You, dumb, weird old man!
CRASH
カシャアアン
Whoa...
Ughhh.
かは
.....

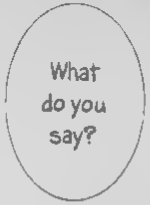
Not really..
Are you consoling me..?
Well.. It's just that I'm lonely and--
.....
I am responsible for..
Let me say this!
I miss her much more than you do, yes!
How dare you. I'm the one who is lonely.
You're right. I'm sorry...
Old man!
じわ…
Don't give yourself the credit, yes...
It was something that Souseiseki decided to do herself
The reason Souseiseki is sleeping is not because of you, old man.



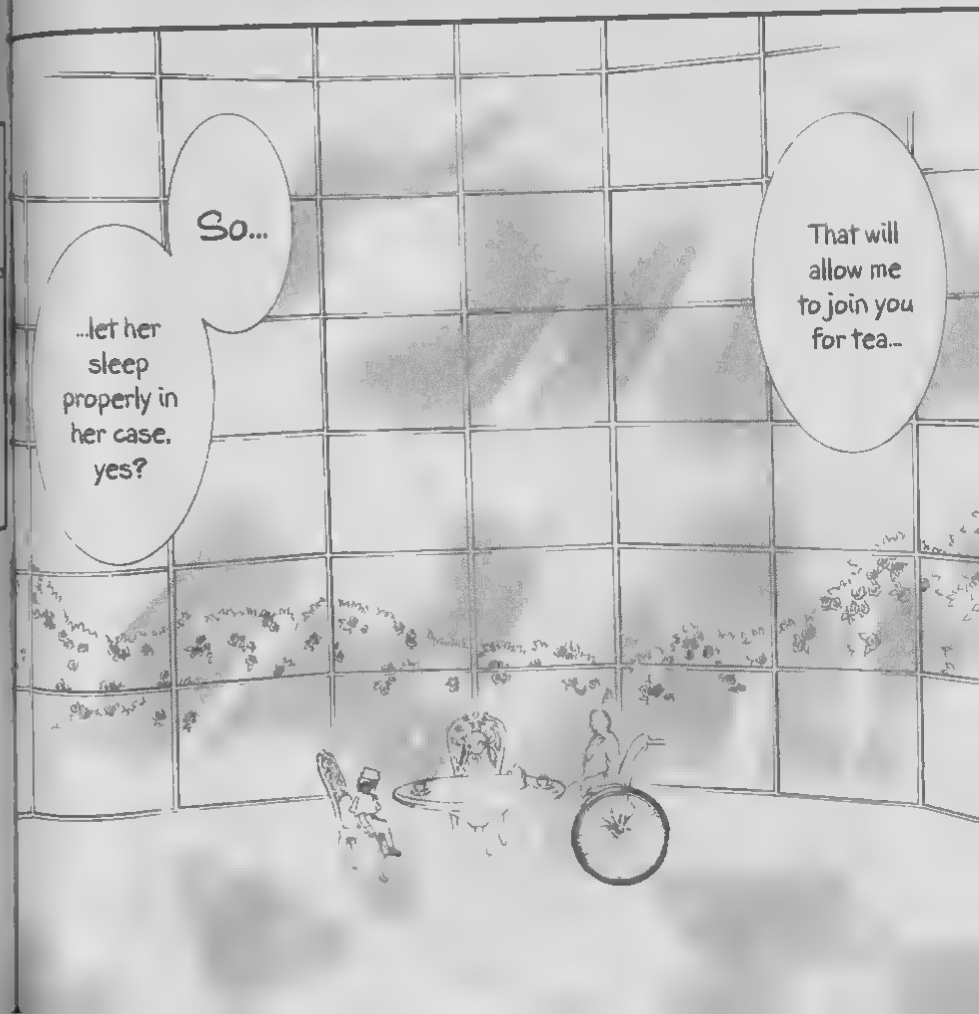

I won't have a senile person taking care of Souseiseki.
I will come and keep an eye on you from time to time, yes.

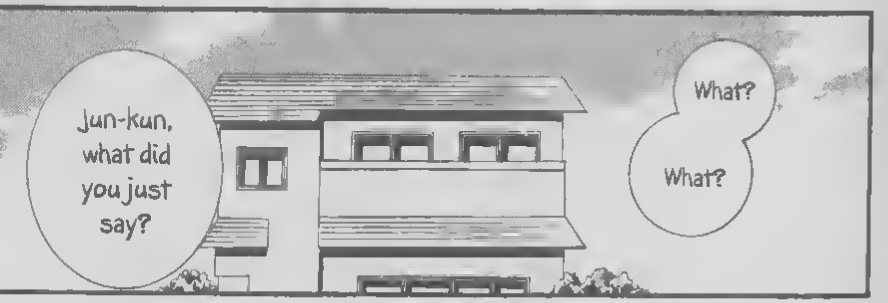
What's the matter with you?
Wha...?
Aren't you going to offer tea to your guest?

Oh... yes...


What do you say?

Suiseiseki...
Thank you.

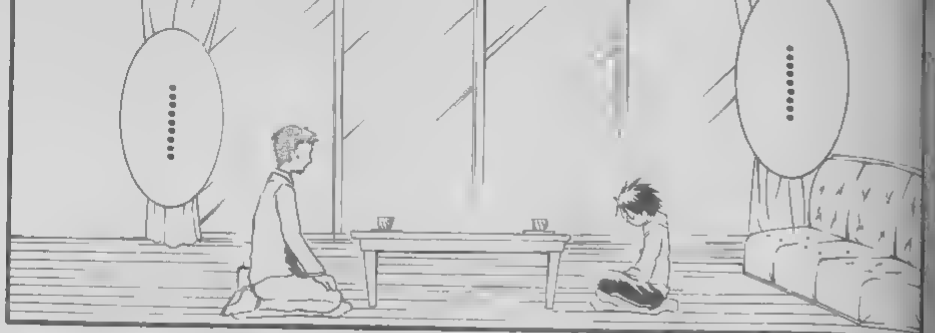

So...
...let her sleep properly in her case, yes?
That will allow me to join you for tea...

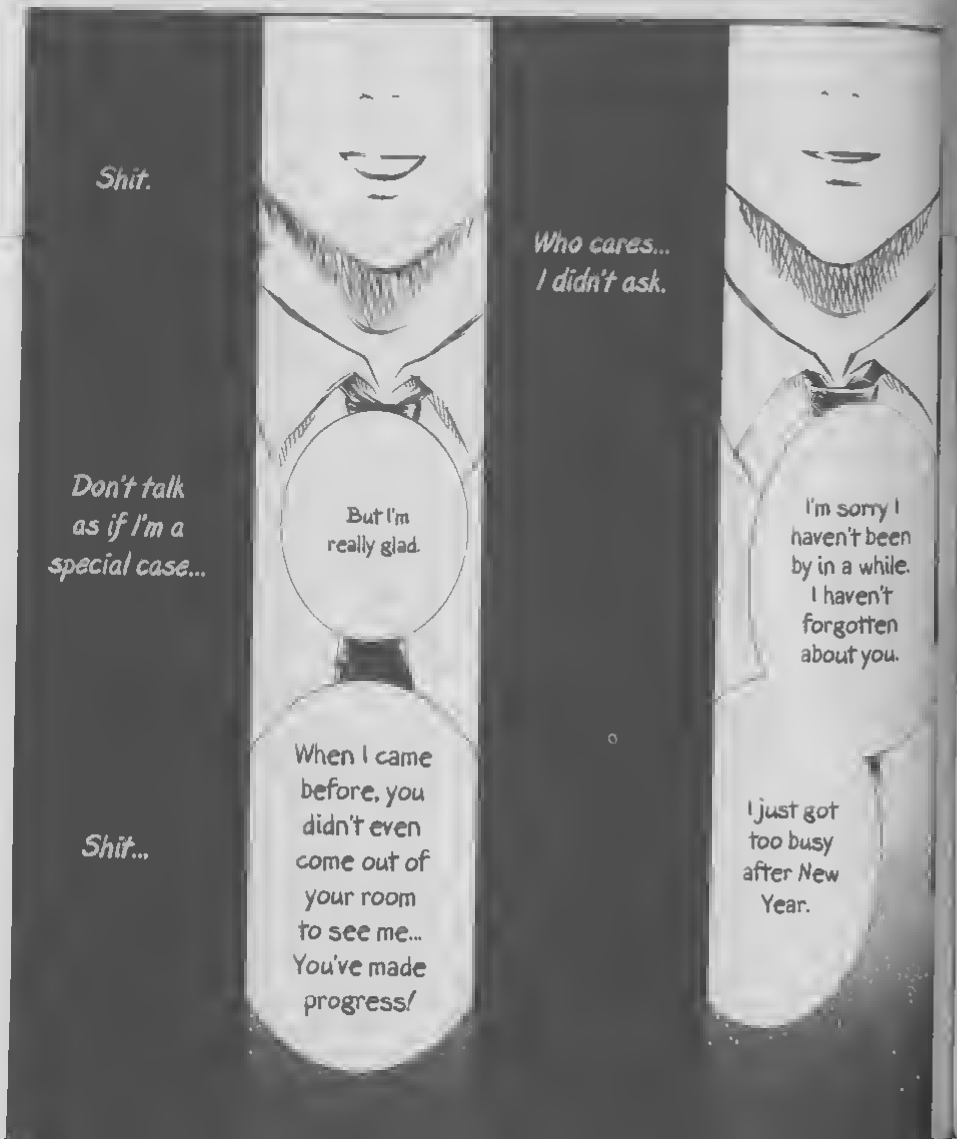

Jun-kun, what did you just say?
What?
What?

All right then!
Sakurada...
Oh...
Someone's at the door
Shoot...
DING DONG
Hey!
What for?
We'll have to have sekigohan tonight!
Oh, then, then... I have to get other things ready, too...
And will you fix the name on my slippers, too?
Jun-kun, you mean it...?
I'll have breakfast with the rest of you tomorrow
I told you...

Phase 27

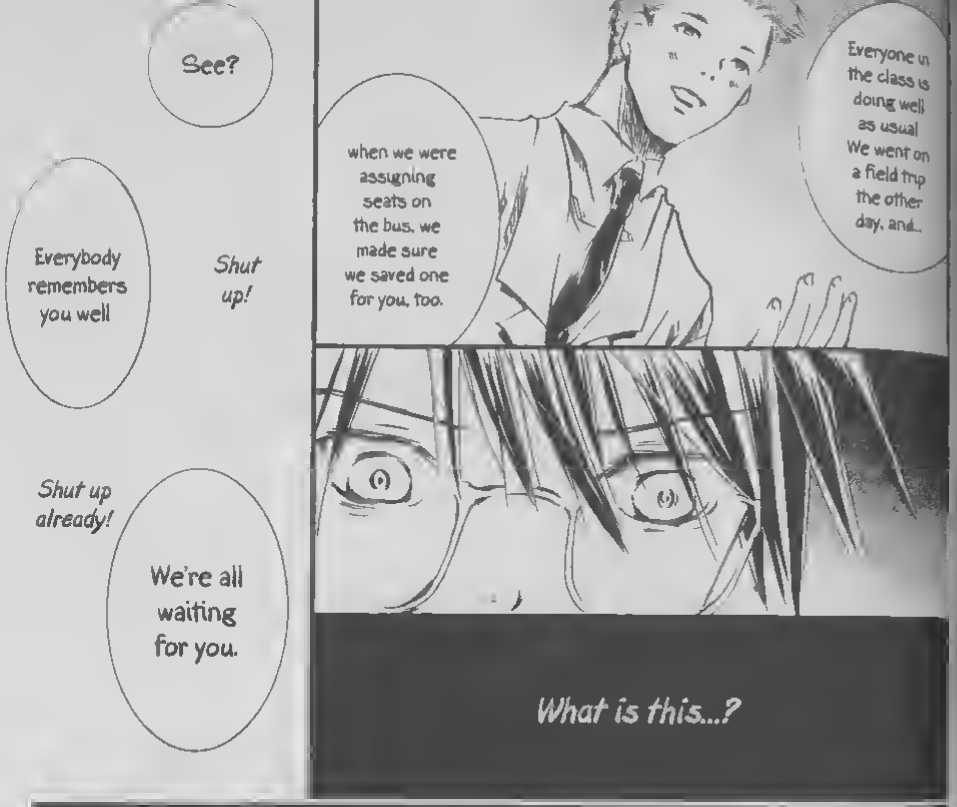
My big break is finally here!
It's here, it's here, it's here.
..today I, Canaria, shall elegantly descend upon them!
After 104 failed attempts to enter the house..
Canaria's secret weapon...
Quick, quick! I have to stand by that thing—
Elephant-chan! The door stopper!
I can enter with the door halfway open!
If you put this thing below a door that's about to close... Magic!
Sorry to barge in like this
Mit-chan's smart and makes me lunches and she's the best!
Isn't it great! Isn't it great?! Mit-chan bought it for me at the hundred-yen store.
And, and




Shit.
Don't talk as if I'm a special case...
But I'm really glad.
When I came before, you didn't even come out of your room to see me... You've made progress!
Shit...
Who cares... I didn't ask.
I'm sorry I haven't been by in a while. I haven't forgotten about you.
I just got too busy after New Year.

Please don't go to the trouble.
Please have some tea.

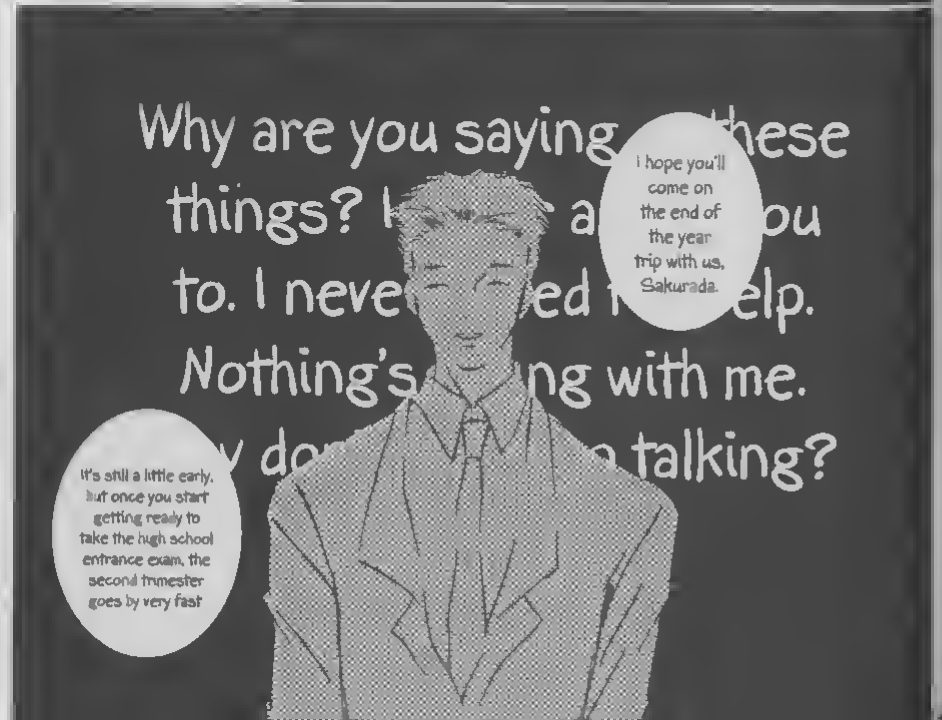
Looks like you've grown a little.
How have you been, Sakurada?


See?
Everybody remembers you well
Shut up!
Shut up already!
We're all waiting for you.
when we were assigning seats on the bus, we made sure we saved one for you, too.
Everyone in the class is doing well as usual We went on a field trip the other day, and...
What is this...?

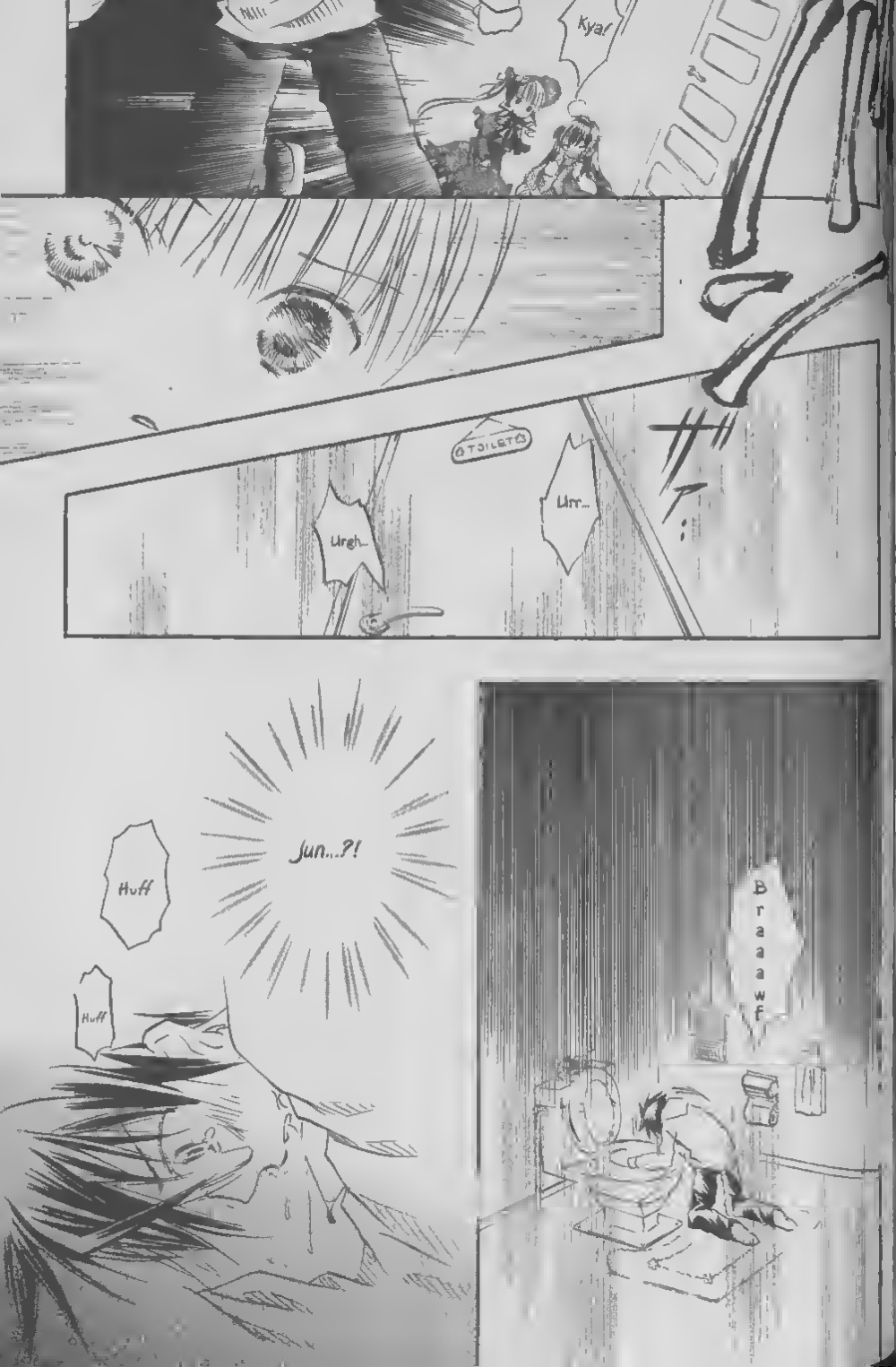
Who is that human?
Who is it?
Whaaaaat?
I don't know But it looks like he came to see Jun.
What? What's going on?
Shhh/
I want to see, too!

Why don't you go out and play or something
Shhht. Be quiet, Ichigo!
Heeeey!

No... Nori...
So, Sakurada...
I wonder what's going on.
Kyu
Please excuse me for a moment


Why are you saying these things? I a ou to. I neve ed elp. Nothing's ng with me. y do talking?
I hope you'll come on the end of the year trip with us, Sakurada.
It's still a little early, but once you start getting ready to take the high school entrance exam, the second trimester goes by very fast

Oh, I almost forgot something very important..
I have a little present for you.
Stop it.
...
Huff
Huff
Sakurada?
Stop it already.
Sorry to keep you wai--
Please...
桜田くん
2-6一同
To Sakurada-kun 2-6-
It's from everybody in class
They're all cheering you on!
Be strong, Shoichi Nakanishi
中西章
頑張ってください
桜田くん
Sakurada kun


Kya!
TOILET
Urgh...
Urr...
Huff
Huff
Jun...?!
Braaaawf

A whole stack of letters, one from everyone in our class.
Sakurada, you're not alone!
Isn't this great, Sakurada?
Uh...
Ju... Jun-kun?
Jun-kun?!
Sa-kura-da!
It keeps us strong and healthy...
I'm sorry, Mr Umeoka.
Friendship is one of the most important aspects of school
Please go...

Oh... dear me.
A lady must not lose her head
Am I ?!
Am I found out?
Nanananananeeeeee! Wha-wha-wha-wha'd'we do, Pizzicato?!
It's been a while, Hinaichigo.
Since you've found me...
What?!
Who are you?
.....

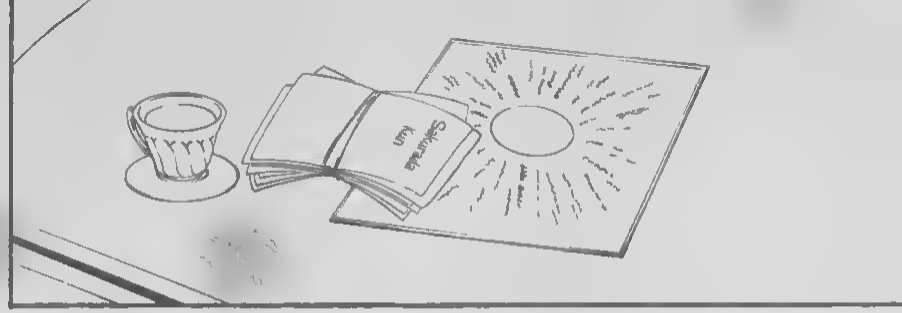
Well, I guess it's snack time
Today... it's petit pancakes that Mit-chan made for me ♥

Oh, dear!
Now we must wait until the door opens again.
You must keep a better eye on things, Pitchcart.

Bon apeti--
Kyaaaa!
Byaaa!

Shinku...
...maybe Jun-kun feels that way, too...
What's wrong with Jun...?
Umm...
Ugh.
Well, I--
I think... Maybe I've made an error here...
I'm no good at this...
I try so hard, but...
It feels like I'm spinning around in circles.
I think...
Me, too.
.....

Lunch and snack... I see! You came here for a picnic!
No!
Hey, don't you open that!
Hm?
It's your bad luck that we meet here--
I'm taking a walk in the yard.
Jun has a visitor, so stay out of the way.
?
?
It was really Tomoe, but I'm Shinku's subordinate now.
I love Jun very much! ♡
Yes!
Is Jun your master?



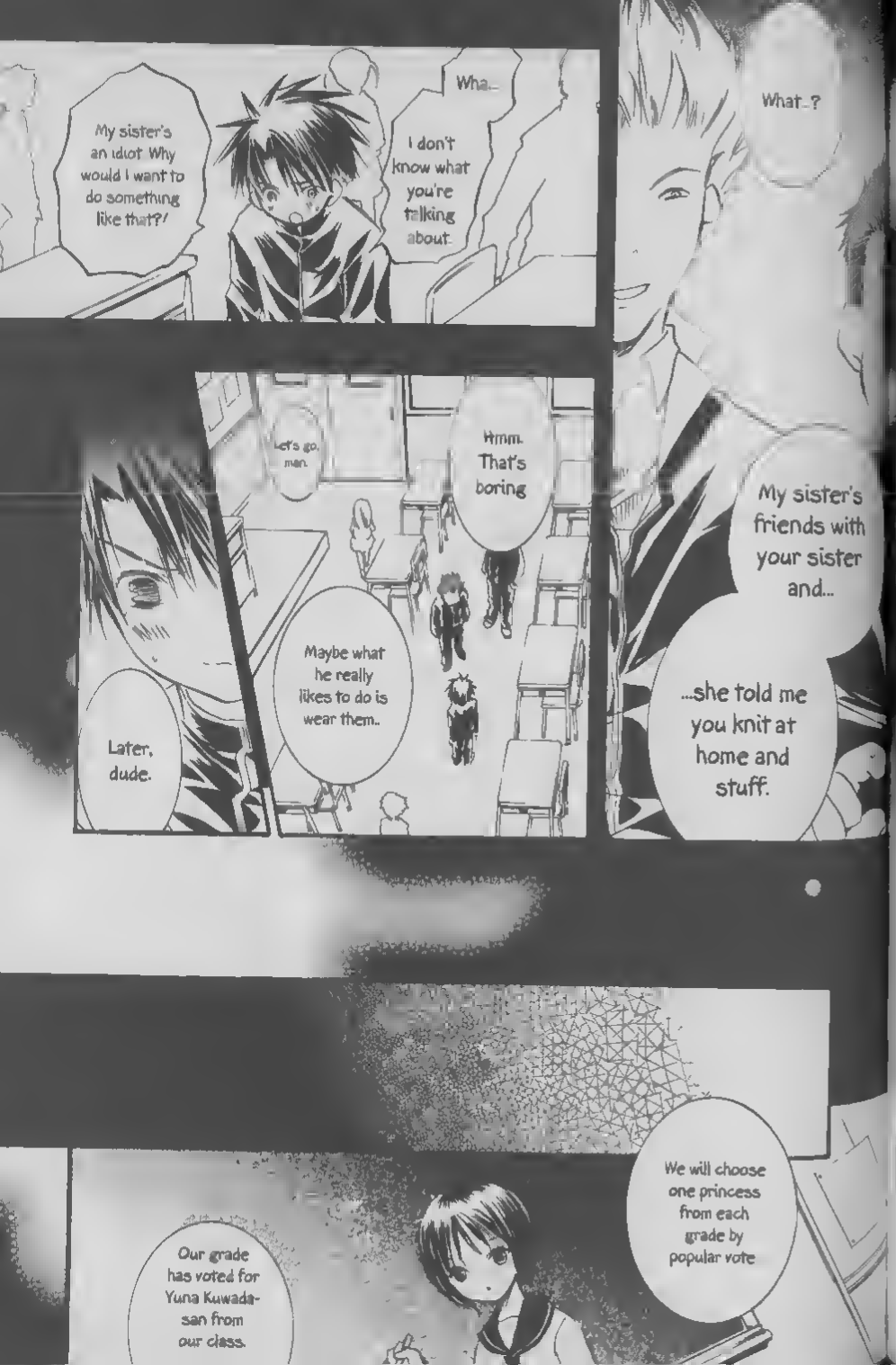
It was a lie.
I lied.

What were you doing?
Hah... That's right.

I never forgot you for a moment
I remember you, Canaria.
It's been a long time

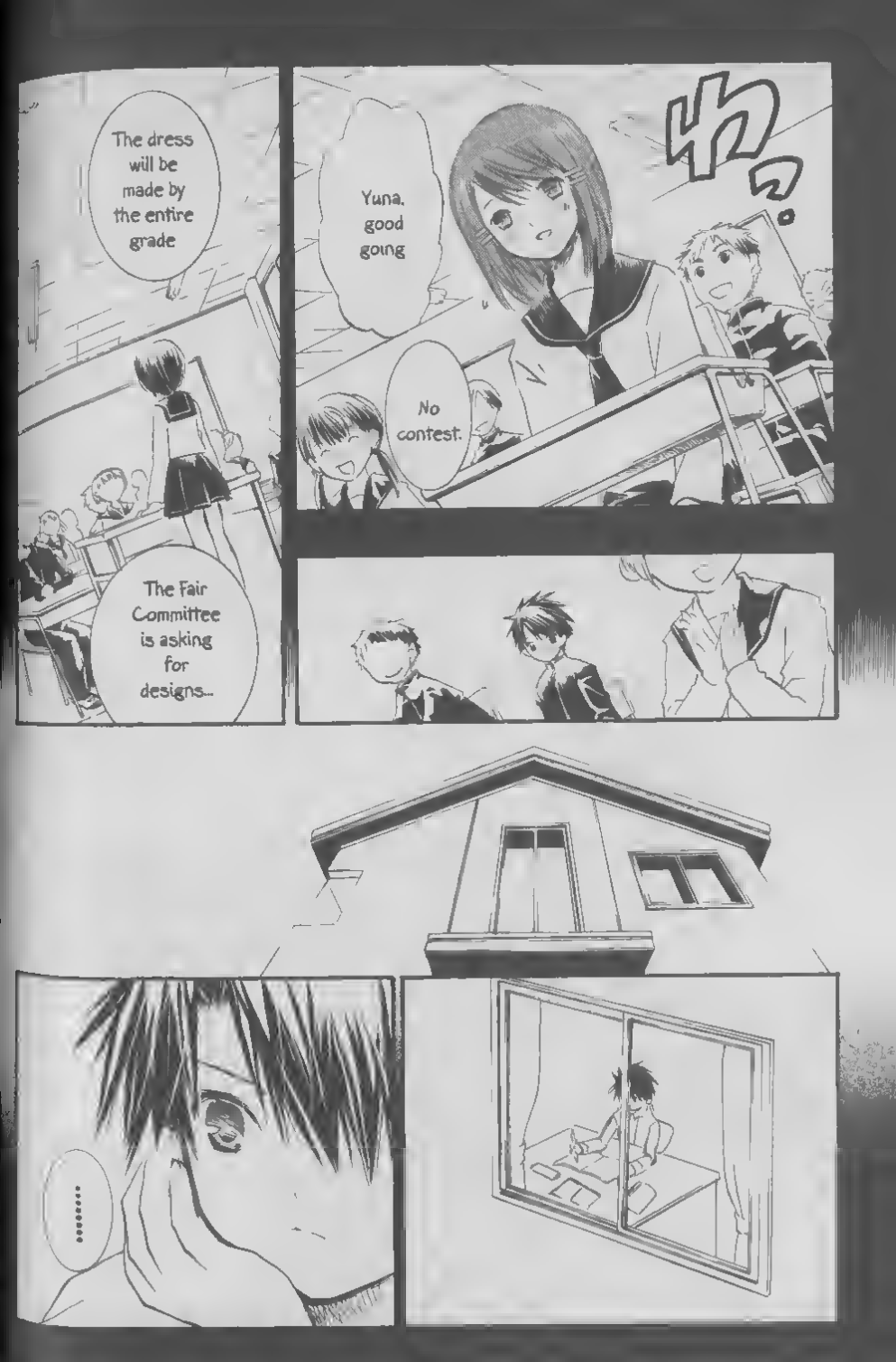
.....
Yes, yes.
We'd better leave him alone...
...until he calms down...
Grrrr!
I love Mit-chan very, very much.
Canaria's master Mit-chan is incredible, you know.
Hina is-- Hina is--
Hina! Hina! Hina!
Cana is-- Cana is--
Cana! Cana! Cana!
Canaria loves Mit-chan even much, much, much, much more!
Hina loves Jun much, much, much more!
The door that was about to open in front of my eyes..
...has been closed shut again..
I'll sleep.
If I sleep, I won't have to think about anything
It's no good. He won't answer.
I wonder how Jun-kun is doing

I love the dress you made...
. for this doll, Jun-kun.
Thank you! ♡
It's fixed, Nori.
I'm so glad it's fixed, Jun-kun.
I could make you another one
Really? You're so great You're really great
I think it's just that you can't do anything, Nori.
Jun-kun.
Oh, she's so pretty
Okay
Jun-kun, would you draw a princess for me again?
The princesses that you draw are all very lucky.
They all have very pretty dresses.
Heh, Heh...
Well, will you make her another dress, then?
Sure What kind of dress do you want?
Well, I want... a lady lawyer dress!
What's that?
scritch scritch


My sister's an idiot. Why would I want to do something like that?!
Wha...
I don't know what you're talking about.
What...?
My sister's friends with your sister and...
...she told me you knit at home and stuff.
Let's go, man.
Hmm. That's boring
Maybe what he really likes to do is wear them..
Later, dude.
We will choose one princess from each grade by popular vote
Our grade has voted for Yuna Kuwada-san from our class.

Sakurada...
I heard something interesting about you.
What?
Yeah, tell us.
Well... My sister told me that...
...you like...
...making clothes for girls and stuff, don't you?

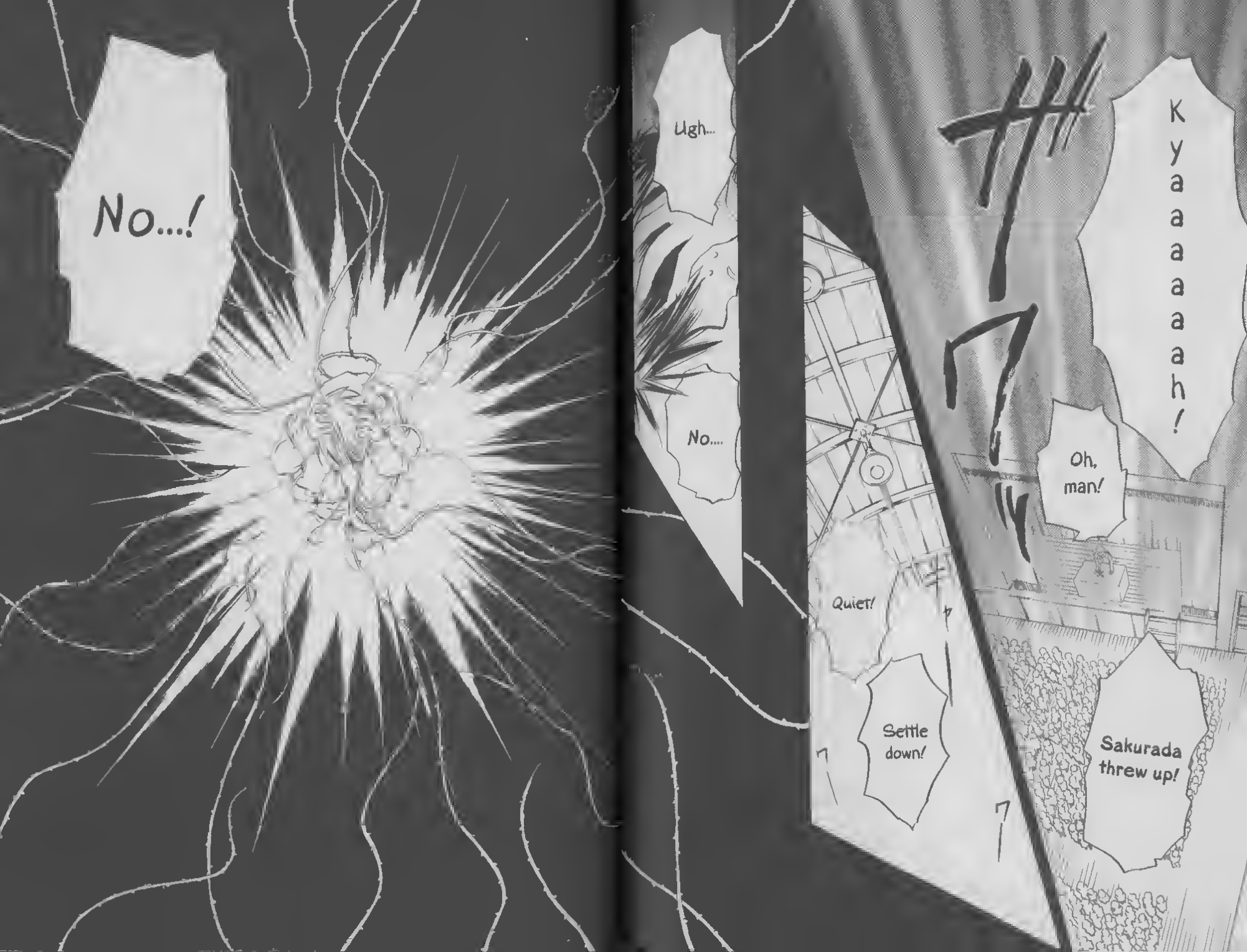
Something that will look good on Kuwada-san...
If I were making it, I'd do this and
..the frills should be like this..
Homework... Homework...
What am I doing?
Yeah, the skirt's kinda short.
It's a little risqué.
Who came up with that?
Look at that!


The dress will be made by the entire grade
The Fair Committee is asking for designs...
Yuna, good going
No contest.
ゆっ?
.....

Next...
Mr. Umeoka, the adviser to the School Fair Committee has something to say
Has anybody seen the princess dress that's on the bulletin board?
All right.
I ask you all to use that as an example of the level of work we expect out of you!
The person that came up with that wonderful dress is...
That drawing really moved me when I saw it in a notebook.
It shows great talent!
Come on. Let's go to class.
No way That's definitely a girly kinda thing
Oh, that's disgusting
Maybe a guy drew it.
Why is that picture on the wall...?
Wha... what the...?
But why...?!
I must have turned it in without erasing it.
My notebook..!

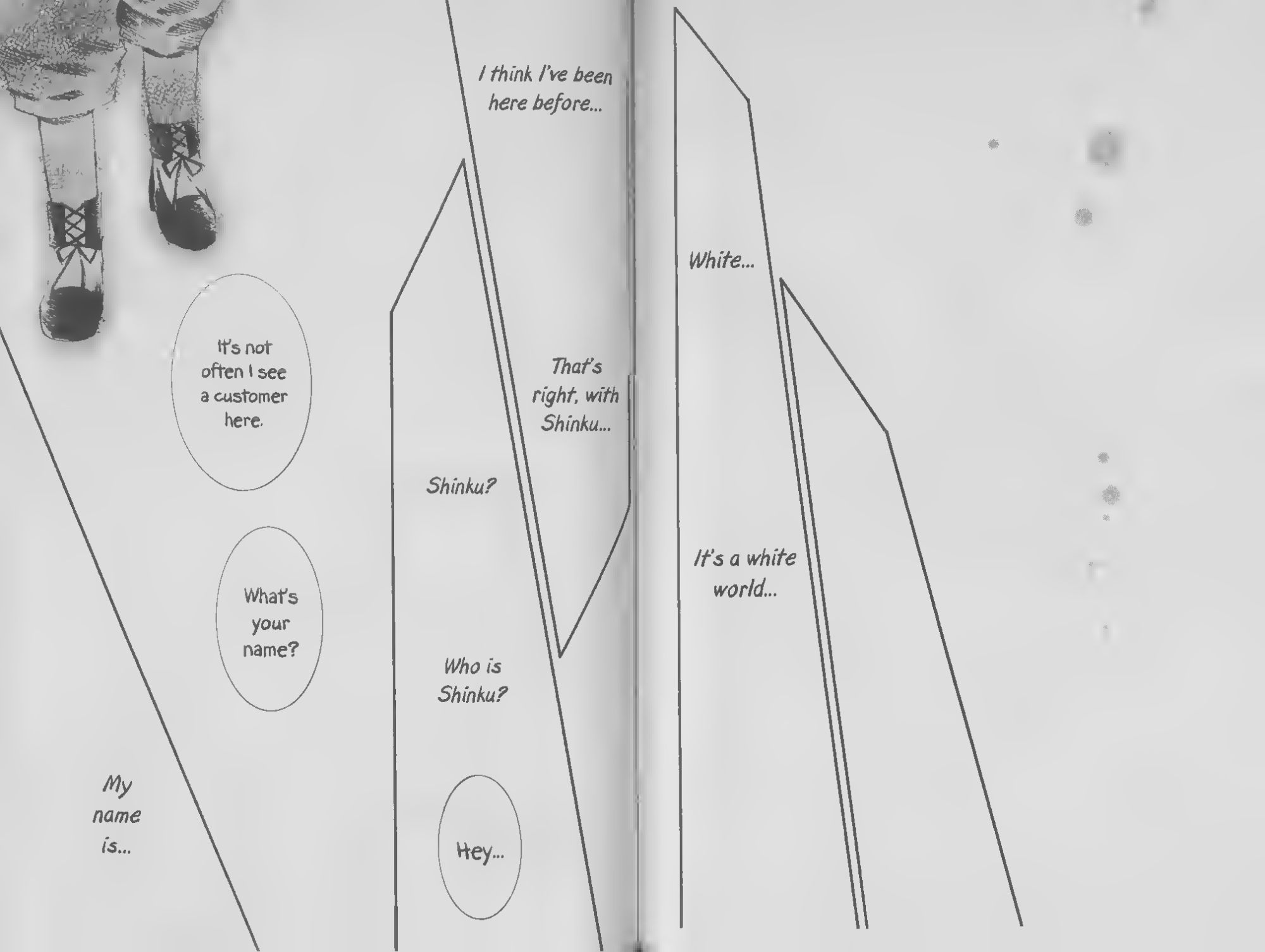
He's kinda...you know...
...gross.
Did he draw it while thinking about Kuwada's body?
Ya think he thinks about her that way?
You guys, stop it
Oh, man!
Ugh.
Urrr...

Who? Who is that?
Man, it was a guy?!
That's great, Sakurada-kun.
See it was Sakurada. I told you
What do you mean you told me?
He's like a designer or something
Jun Sakurada-kun...
...of Room Three of Grade One.


No...!
Ugh...
No....
Kyaaaaaah!
Oh, man!
Quiet!
Settle down!
Sakurada threw up!

Phase 28

Huff
Huff

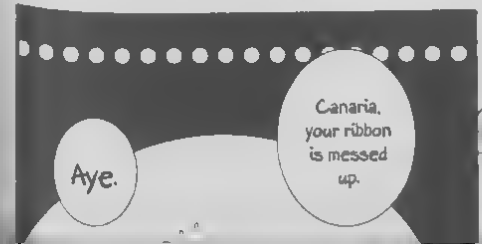

It's not often I see a customer here.
What's your name?
My name is...
I think I've been here before...
That's right, with Shinku...
Shinku?
Who is Shinku?
Hey...
White...
It's a white world...

Well, that's surprising.
It was a boy, huh?!
Urrr...
Canaria, look up will you?
Dolls are so...
It's unusual for a boy to like dolls.

Jun?

Canaria, your hook is wrong.
Aye.

Jun... a girl then?
No. A boy with glasses.


Canaria, your ribbon is messed up.
Aye.

That's right, Mit-chan!
There.
According to my detailed investigations, I was able to find out the names of all the Rozen Maiden masters.

I want them to come to my house!
I want the other Rozen Dolls, too!
スリスリスリ
Mit-chan... My cheek is from friction... Frick...shon... hot...hot...
Oooooh! I can't help it! She's soooo cuuute!
So...?
I dream of the Rozen Maiden series...
Would you? Would you?
I would willingly go bankrupt!!!
I would be willing to work overtime - max out all my cards...
This dress is perfect for you, Canaria. Just as I thought. I'm glad I won that online auction.
Even though it cost me 100,000 yen.
Ooops. Your corsage is all messed up.
Kyaaaa! You're rubbing again.
But, Canaria, you're the cutest.
Canaria, that dress is super, incredibly, unbelievably cuuuute!
Mwaaaa!!!
Ohhhhhh. You're sooooo cuuuuuuute!

And what if he doesn't wake up then?
!
Shinku..
A while.
Wait. How long do we wait?
Shinku?
What do we do?

Jun is not dreaming.
The door won't open..

Eeeuurr!
If this continues..
It's been a whole day.. I can't believe he hasn't dreamt once..

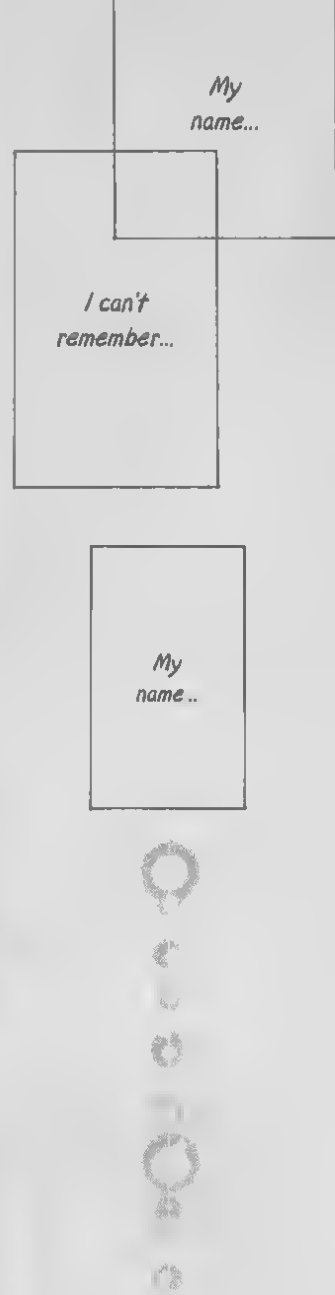
It could be that his body simply needs rest.
We should wait.
Shall we jump on his stomach?
Nori is at school, so we must do something ourselves .
We shall hold his nose and pour water down his mouth, yes.

I'm here to look for it.
Oh...!
I know you...
Really?
I think I know you...
I can't tell when you're so goopy like that..
I...don't think I know you.

What is your name?
I forgot.

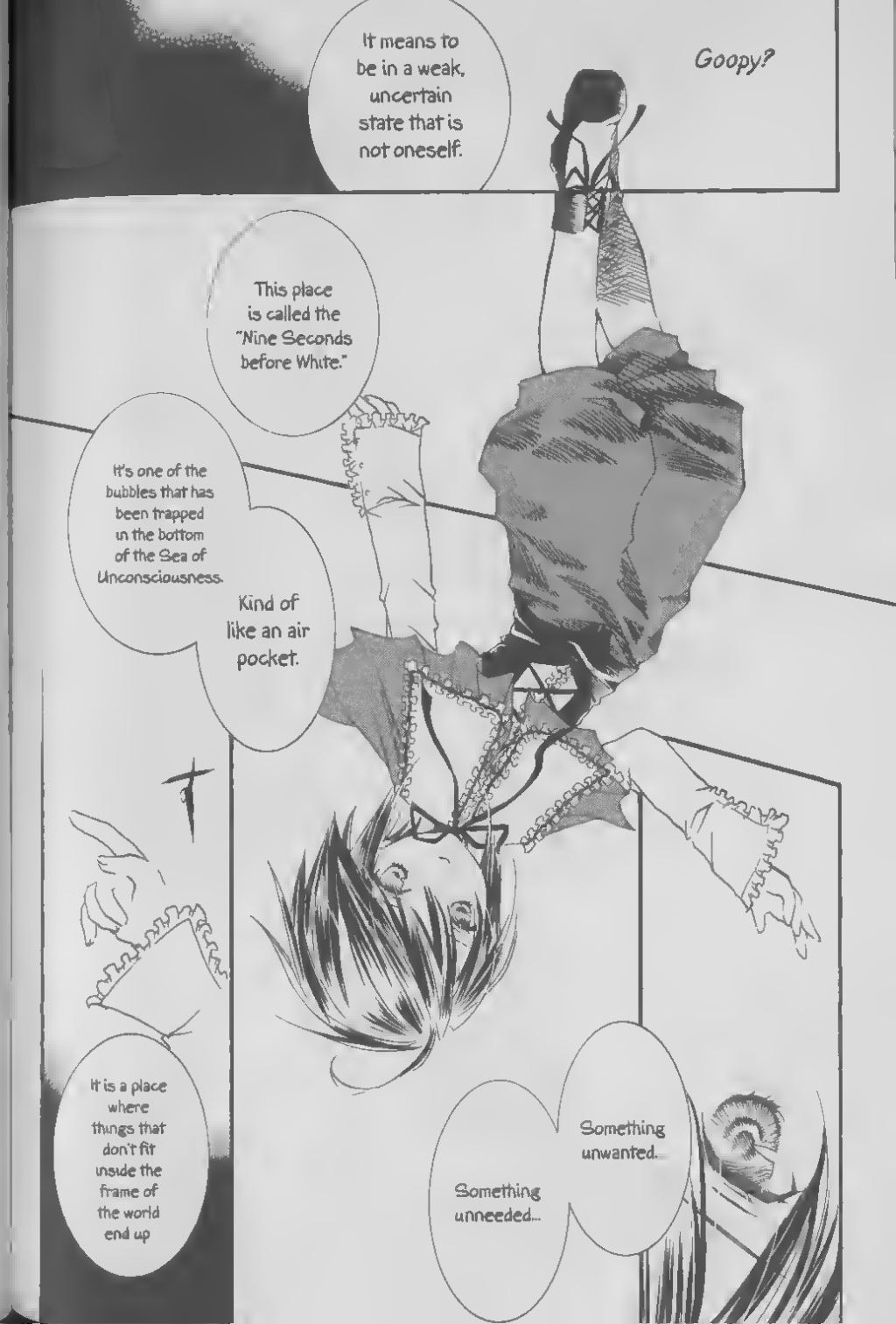
A name is an insignificant thing, hardly able to express the essential quality of things.
But you do need it.

So you should take good care of it.

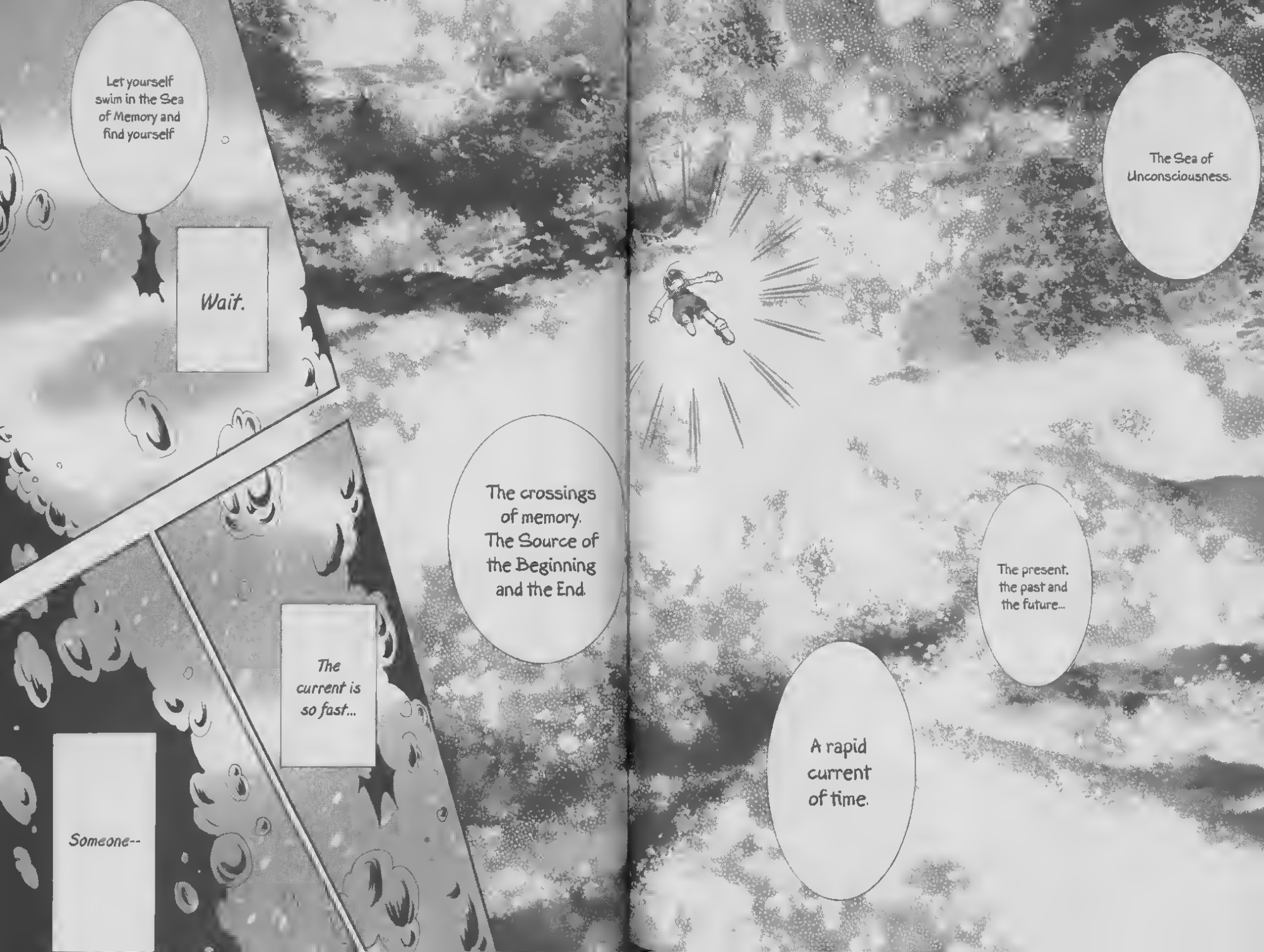

My name...
I can't remember...
My name..

...hate yourself so much to end up looking like that?
Do you...
How would I know.
I guess you're right. The fact that you're here is...
I don't even know who I am...
..either a result of a lot of coincidences or..
..you have a heavy, unwanted burden that has sunk you this low
I... don't know...
You might have come here because you wanted to escape from your reality

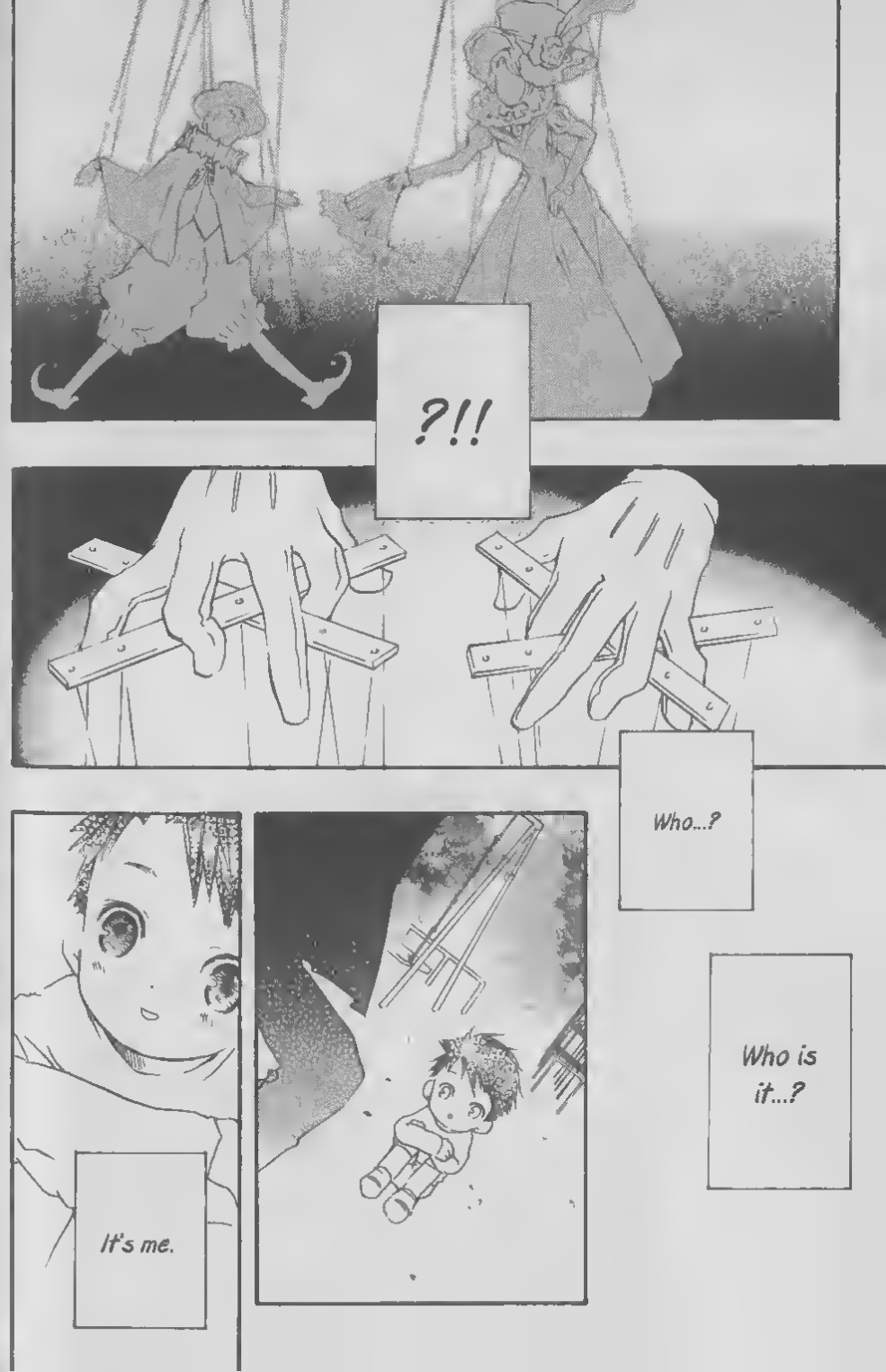
You and I...
..are both unfit for the world.

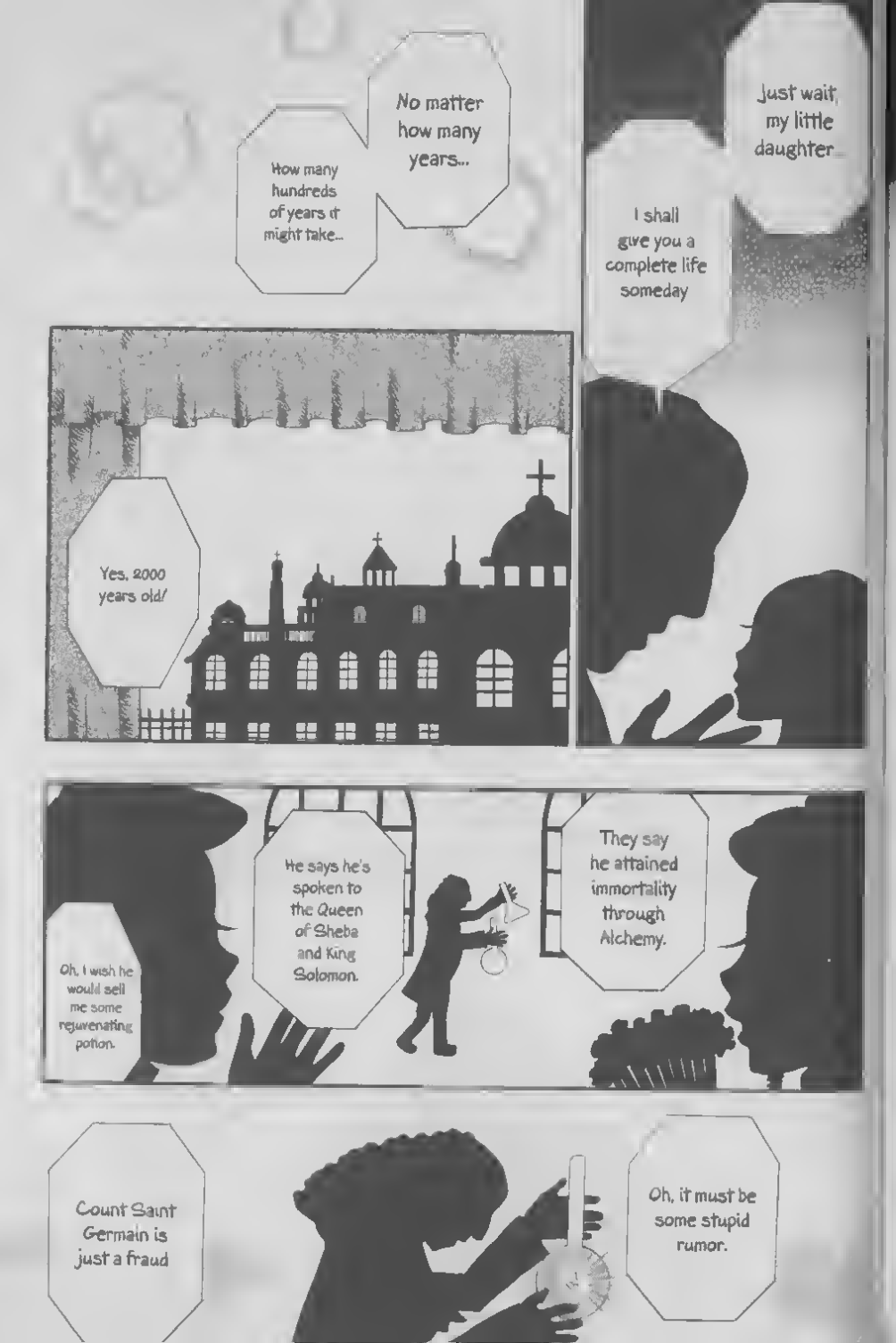

It means to be in a weak, uncertain state that is not oneself.
Goopy?
This place is called the "Nine Seconds before White."
It's one of the bubbles that has been trapped in the bottom of the Sea of Unconsciousness.
Kind of like an air pocket.
It is a place where things that don't fit inside the frame of the world end up
Something unneeded...
Something unwanted...

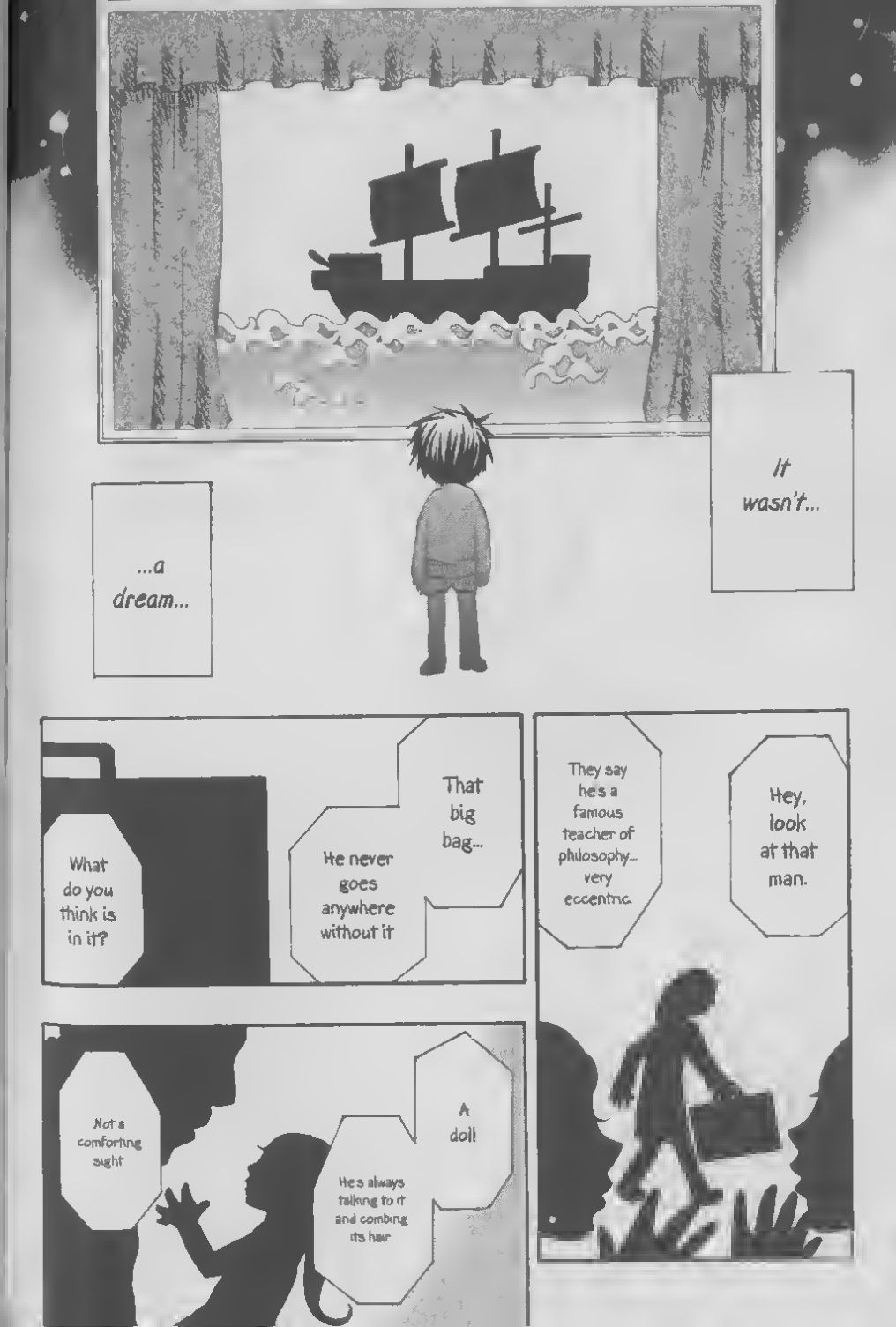
Don't worry You won't die in the shape you're in. You have no substance
Just don't lose sight of me.
This is...
Water...?!
Let's look together...
...for a way to get back to yourself.
I'll drown...
ゴボ
Now come...
ゴボ…
You have a place to go back to.
You have someone that you cannot let go.
Isn't that right?
I'm the same as you in that I lack substance.
But you and I are different...
Nothing will reach you here
it's your unwanted reality or the voice of someone dear..
It's a white world where you could lose even yourself


Let yourself swim in the Sea of Memory and find yourself
Wait.
Someone--
The current is so fast...
The crossings of memory. The Source of the Beginning and the End.
The Sea of Unconsciousness.
The present, the past and the future...
A rapid current of time.

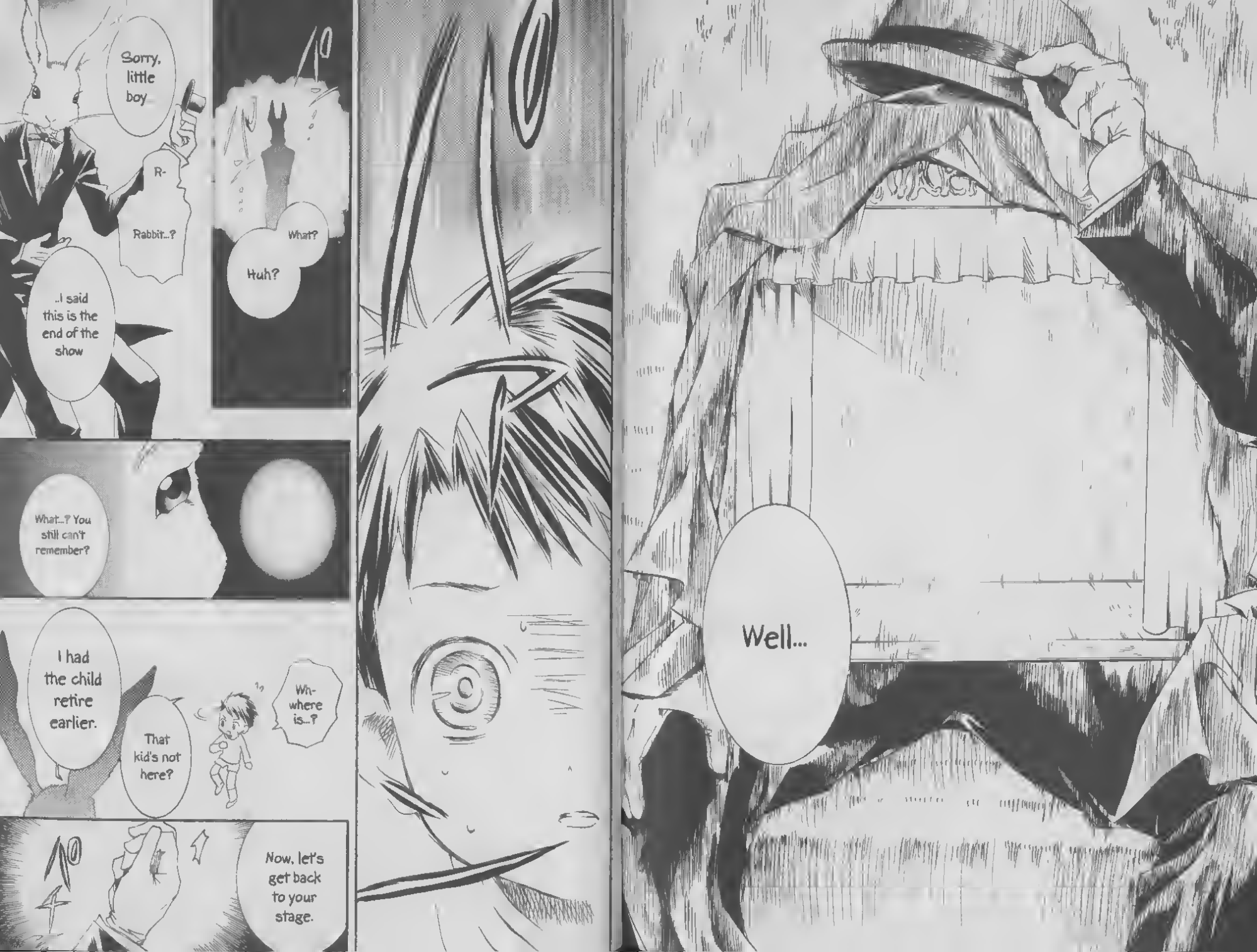
That's me...
My memory...
Well, there were some that were alive
Watch carefully
Yes, it was great.
It was like they were alive
Did you like the first act, little boy?
The second act will begin...
Now...
I had forgotten...

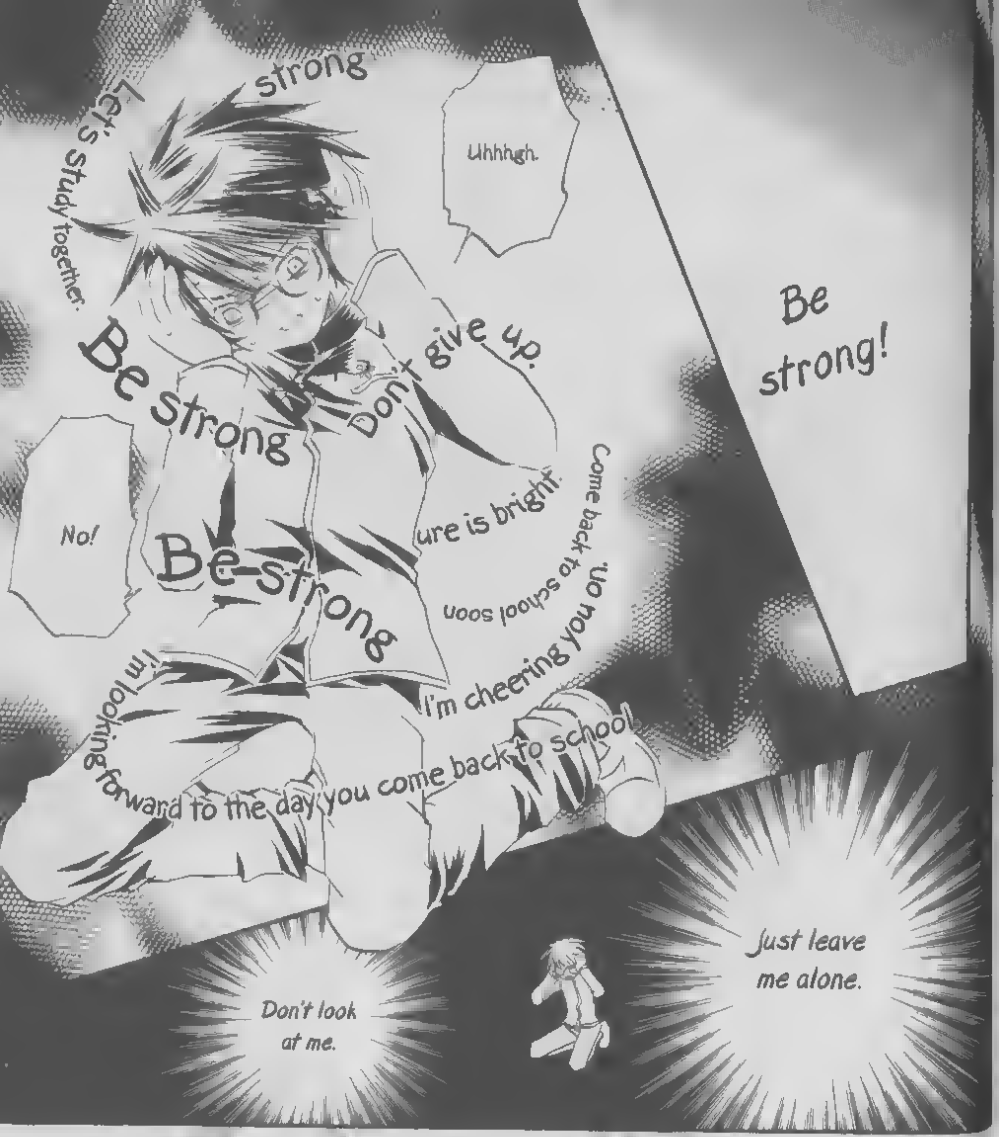

?!!
Who...?
Who is it...?
It's me.


No matter how many years...
How many hundreds of years it might take...
Just wait, my little daughter...
I shall give you a complete life someday
Yes, 2000 years old!
They say he attained immortality through Alchemy.
He says he's spoken to the Queen of Sheba and King Solomon.
Oh, I wish he would sell me some rejuvenating potion.
Count Saint Germain is just a fraud
Oh, it must be some stupid rumor.


...a dream...
It wasn't...
What do you think is in it?
He never goes anywhere without it
That big bag...
They say he's a famous teacher of philosophy... very eccentric.
Hey, look at that man.
Not a comforting sight
He's always talking to it and combing its hair
A doll

It is finally made. My...
Rosa...
Mystica...
That's Count Cagliostro.
He is a wretched con artist who disobeys the church.
What a strange, eerie man.
Creating human shapes...
He's wasting his time whittling wood.
What is he doing in prison?
That's all for the day.
Sir...
The story that you just told...
That man... Why is he making dolls?
This is the end of the puppet show
Now... little boy...


Sorry, little boy...
R-
Rabbit...?
..I said this is the end of the show
What?
Huh?
What...? You still can't remember?
I had the child retire earlier.
That kid's not here?
Wh-where is...?
Now, let's get back to your stage.
Well...


Let's study together.
strong
Uhhhgh.
Be strong
Don't give up.
No!
Be strong
ure is bright.
Come back to school soon
I'm cheering you on.
I'm looking forward to the day you come back to school
Be strong!
Just leave me alone.
Don't look at me.

Don't look at me like this...
Don't look..
What?

Be strong, Sakurada-kun!
Don't give up!

So that's him...
Man, such a girly sissy...
Which boy is Jun Sakurada?

Eeeh... ah...
Ah...

To be continued

Preview for Volume 6

In a deep sleep, Jun is mistaken by Suiguintoh for her own father, the dollmaker Rozen. And Canaria finally manages to enter the Sakurada house, only to find herself welcomed by the ever-accommodating Nori. And the mysterious girl in Jun's dreams... is she the seventh maiden?

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It seems that sickness and death looms large in the mysterious world of Rozen Maiden. Suiguintoh may be able to heal her master, but who will heal her? Suiseiseki and Shinku meet in a dream to confront the loss of Sousuiseki—but they do not seem to be alone in their mourning. Meanwhile, Jun is getting better, but it will be short-lived if horrible memories continue to haunt him…

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